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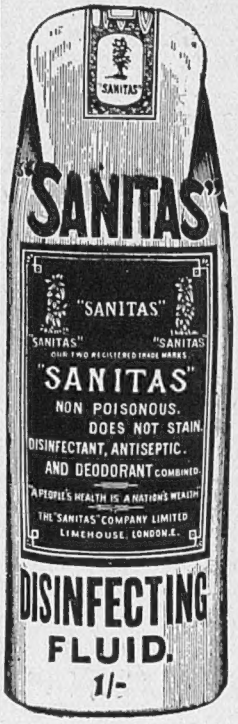

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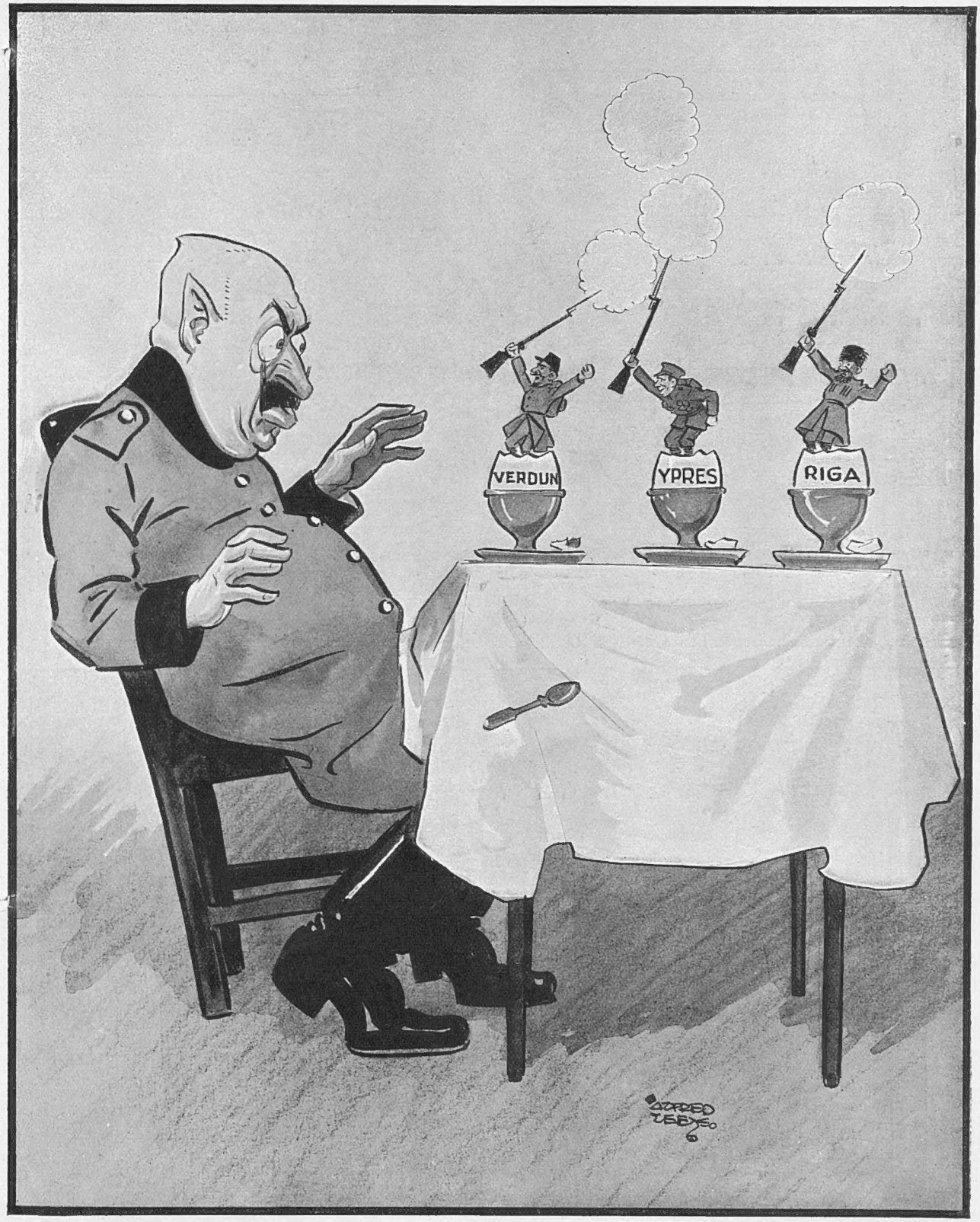
The BYSTANDER



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BYSTANDER WAR COMMENTS

An Army Disclosure

WHAT I am waiting for now is Field-Marshal Churchill's attack on the War Office on the same lines as his attack on the Admiralty. I have it on the very best authority that his spell at the Front has enabled him to discover an appalling state of affairs in the Army. He has unearthed a shortage out there so serious as to be the actual cause of his coming home. Shortage of limelight.

❀ ❀

Ver Done Brown—

HOW do you feel about your grandmother? Substitute Verdun for your grandmother and you get the universal question of the week—but the answer to either would be equally helpful in getting knowledge of how the war is going. Verdun is merely a name for the corner of the conflict that happens temporarily to be nearest the fire. Once it was Ypres, once Warsaw, once any one of fifty places along the fronts. Each has its day, or to pursue the metaphor, its roasting, and each takes its vast toll of the German Army.

❀ ❀

—Till Cooked

NO army can stand that process for ever—though Germany quite clearly can stand it for an inordinately long time. To-day the roasting is taking place at Verdun, and in the all-important point of losses Germany, even if Verdun were taken, is being done brown. It is all a series of stages to the point at which she will be cooked—to a turn.

❀ ❀

That Ginger Shortage

AN increased shortage sounds like a contradiction in terms; but everything is contradictory in this war—from fortresses that can't fall but do to German marks that keep on falling but, for all evidence to the contrary, seem to leave the gentle Hun as pushful and gasful as ever. The shortage of ginger in our prosecution of the war to which I drew attention a few weeks ago has gone on increasing ever since. Just at present we seem to be at the absolute bottom of the cask. If anybody can detect any ginger in any of our operations at this moment he would be doing an immense service to the Allied cause by bringing it to the attention of one or two nations who are waiting on the fence for just that bit of ginger to bring them over.

Heaps and Heaps of It

MIND you, speaking as one who has given a donation of £200 to the State for suggesting that the British soldier ever spends his leisure otherwise than in prayer and fasting, I wish to make it quite clear, even to the administrators of the Defence of the Realm Act, that I imply no absence of ginger whatever in our officers and men, whether in the saps beneath or on the waters above or in the aircraft over the waters. If the Government had as much ginger between them as lies beneath any single tunic or jumper in the army or fleet—well, we shouldn't be where we are.

❀ ❀

"Damn the Consequences"

I BELIEVE absolutely that if from the outset we had fought this war as we might have fought it we should have won it by now. I believe absolutely that we could bring Germany to her senses in six weeks and to her knees in six months if we started right now fighting in the spirit of one who fears neither precedent nor neutral; whose methods are governed, not by the susceptibilities of his grandmother, but by the savagery of the beast he has to kill; whose manners are suited, not to the dinner-tables of Downing Street, but to the repulsive job in hand; and whose motto is "Damn the consequences." That is what I mean by ginger.

(*Continued on page 462*)

FRITZ: "Go on. Remember there is corn in Egypt"
THE TIRED TURK: "Yes, but don't forget there is a plague of Khaki, too"

BYSTANDER COMMENTS (continued from page 461)

The Turbulent Ex-Minister

THE one thing that gives me pause in this matter of calling for more ginger is that very troublesome thing, Winston Churchill. Will nobody rid us of this turbulent ex-Minister? If his method of gingering-up the Admiralty is the only way of handling ginger known to the political mind then we had better do without it and go sweetly slumbering to our doom. Like Winston himself at Sidney Street it is worse than useless. If I, as a mere miserable journalist, had written an article putting as much doubt into the public's mind and into the minds of our Allies, and as much confidence and jubilation into Germany's, as did Winston Churchill's speech in the Commons, I should by now probably be serving my country by providing a trembling target at the Tower for a firing-party under the Defence of the Realm Act. All that happens to an ex-Minister is that he gets a step nearer becoming a Minister again—of air?

IF AN M.P. FOR THE AIR WHY NOT OTHER ELEMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES?

(Goodness knows there are enough representatives of Earth)

The New Party

IT is difficult to imagine Mr. Balfour and Field-Marshal Churchill in the same Cabinet, and so closely associated as they would be if the latter filled the airy office for which undoubtedly he has qualities. I fancy Admiral Churchill is turning over in his mind flights that may land him considerably higher—ultimately. Consider this: Winston Churchill as leader of a smashing, dashing, gingery, decidedly useful and popular Patriotic Opposition Party? Do you see the lines along which a general election might run either immediately after the war if it ends soon enough or much earlier if it doesn't? And do you see where Churchill would come out if the present Government took the knock?

Where are the War Babies?

I WAS given to understand by the sensational Press and the sensational Pulpit that about this time one would scarcely be able to walk anywhere without stepping on a baby—a war baby. In actual fact the birthrate for the past year has proved the lowest ever recorded! This should surprise the sensational Press and Pulpit, but doesn't me. You can't walk anywhere in London without the risk of stumbling over something, it is true; but the thing isn't babies by a long way. It is the useless legion of pet dogs, which have increased in such numbers lately. The women of England are wonderful, noble, patriotic creatures I know; but they would be a lot more useful to the country if they took up the care of babies and gave up the care of their dogs.

Signs and Portents

AND so we now have an "air" M.P. He not only fights the Coalition forces, but beats them, and gets in with a thumping majority. It doesn't look as though he'll have a very rosy time when he takes his seat, but we wish him luck all the same. It's not the only sign of the times, by the way, that has made its appearance during the past few days. There is now a suggestion—made at Leicester on Sunday—for putting up an "Attested Married" candidate for Market Harborough. We wish *him* luck, too. Yet another sign is that certain journalistic articles are now being termed "Despatches." We're getting on.

Ticket Taxes

THE proposed new tax on theatre-tickets is not likely to arouse any serious opposition. Theatrical managers themselves do not object to it because the tax will be borne by the general public, and we can all be nobly philosophic about the other man's trouble. Apart from that, the tax proposed would be a measure of sheer common sense. The suggestion is that it should be, at the rate of about twopence in the shilling, so that even the small boy who treats himself to a sixpenny seat at a cinema-theatre will have the satisfaction of being able to pay a clear penny towards the liquidation of the national debt of two thousand million pounds.

(*Continued on page 464*)

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

IN connection with the new Government regulations regarding economy of paper, readers who wish to be sure of obtaining THE BYSTANDER regularly should order it direct from the Publishing Office or else from a newsagent or bookstall clerk.

Olive Branches for All

After the sensation caused by the attempted Churchill-Fisher rapprochement absolutely nothing will surprise us

BYSTANDER COMMENTS (*concluded from page 462*)

The Deadhead's Dilemma

THE idea, we believe, is that the tax should extend to the "deadhead" as well. A great many people never dream of paying for their theatrical entertainment, relying entirely on their influence with the management to secure a free seat. In future they will have to come provided with one-and-ninepence in hard cash to pay for the free stall allotted them. The pinch will, of course, be felt when the urbane manager steps forward and explains that he has no stalls left, but there is one of the five-guinea boxes that has not been sold for the current performance, and that is at the applicant's disposal on payment of the Government tax of seventeen-and-six. The deadhead will probably find it cheaper to go into the pit as a paying guest.

Photograph] MISS NATALIE HELY-HUTCHINSON [*Bell*

Daughter of the late Right Hon. Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, P.C., G.C.M.G., and the Hon. Lady Hely-Hutchinson, of 147, St. James's Court, who is to be married shortly to Mr. Gerard Mackworth Young, of the Indian Civil Service, eldest son of Sir William Mackworth Young, K.C.S.I., and Lady Young, of Oak Lea, Silverhill, St. Leonards-on-Sea

⁂ ⁂

Imaginary Butter

THE new butter tickets that have been issued in Germany have been a great success, if you take into consideration the number applied for. The drawback to the enterprise is that there does not appear to be enough butter to go round. The butter ticket, it seems, cannot be redeemed at its face value any more than can Germany's other scraps of paper. The good people of Berlin are expected to imagine that they have had the butter when they haven't. Faith may be able to move mountains, but it does not make much of a show on a slice of bread.

⁂ ⁂

Fancy Diet

LONG ago an ingenious German professor tried to convince people that within reason an imaginary diet can actually be made satisfying. He said that when he was a poor student, able only to afford a piece of dry bread for his breakfast, he used to adopt the plan of sketching a robust sausage on the table before him with a piece of chalk. He would eat a mouthful of bread and then rub out a piece of the sausage until the meal was concluded, when he was left with the conviction of having partaken of a really rich *menu*. If chalk is not contraband of war, we might allow neutrals to supply it freely to our friend the enemy.

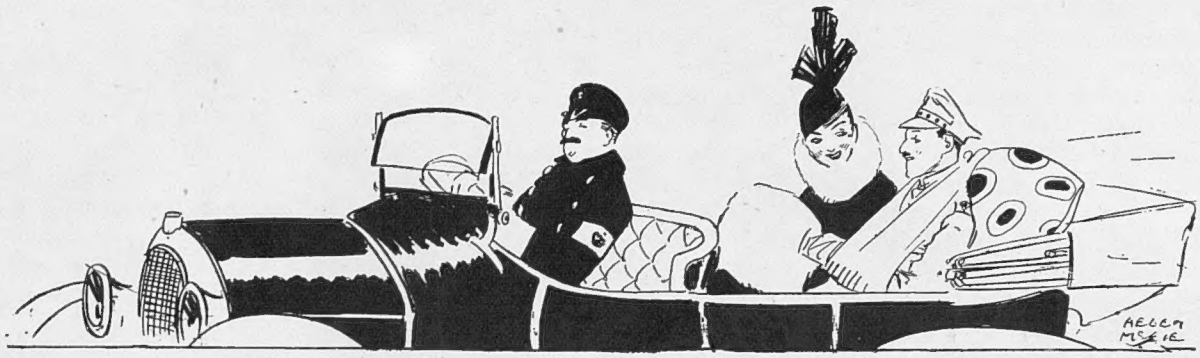
⁂ ⁂

The Late Mr. F. T. Jane

BYSTANDER readers will regret to hear of the death of Mr. Fred T. Jane, the naval writer, who has contributed many interesting articles on naval affairs to THE BYSTANDER during the war. He died suddenly at Southsea last week, and will be remembered as the founder of "The World's Fighting Ships" and another annual production, entitled "Aircraft," both of which have proved invaluable as reference books during the war.

"IN ENGLAND-NOW!"

A LETTER FROM "BLANCHE" TO A COUSIN IN THE COLONIES



"It's dernier cri to take a wounded officer about with you now. They've even superseded Pekinese"

LONDON, *March* 13, 1916

DEAR COUSIN—

ACCORDING to Mr. Thomas Hardy, I think it is—

Looking forward to the Spring
One puts up with anything.

But, all the same, for us lesser mortals it's just about now, don't you think, that one gets that darkness-before-the-dawn feeling ?—you know, quite dreadfully fed-up with waiting and fretfully certain that Nature's a tiresome old lady, and that life, if there *is* a cowslippy smell in the country, is just one dam thing after another, dark and long as a day without caresses.

⁂ ⁂

BUT I rather suspect that the trouble really is that we're all more than ever strung-up and "nervous-like." Rumour's taken a fresh lease of life just lately—there's a new story at least once a day in this neurotic London now—and our cheerfullest moments lots of us evolve out of letters from the Front. "Don't worry, my dear, we shall win by a thousand lengths," one of *my* last messages helped to lift me out of a regular bog of dark despair on a nasty, north-easty windy morning just lately.

⁂ ⁂

I DON'T know about prayer and fasting, but I do expect meeting each other and talking over things and fussing around with the wounded will be our chief Lenten occupation this year. Anyway, it looks as if there's going to be plenty to talk about—the Ides of March have come, and we seem to be in for a busy time, if Verdun is anything to judge by. On land there've simply got to be some big pushes somewhere soon, I suppose—anyway, France, they tell me, is fairly black with men by now, from sea to front trenches, all ready and waiting to give the Boche his strafing.

"You've only got to smile and have a good dressmaker and listen sweetly to all he's got to say about himself"

⁂ ⁂

AT sea the experts are all warning us to look out for squalls. Seems there's an idea that the enemy's been busy making things, in his months and months of restfulness within the bar of Kiel Harbour, while we've been working overtime patrolling the world's seas. And in the air—well, about that I don't know any more than anyone else does, least of all, I imagine, the new Air Minister, whom I've never even met at Hendon and places. That was a quick war-change of his, wasn't it? Recruiter-in-Chief one day and boss of the air the next.

⁂ ⁂

NICE uncertain, never-know-what-you're-waking-up-to sort of state of things, isn't it? The breath of life to some adventurous enthusiasts, but a fearful weariness of the flesh to those who like a placid, well-ordered routine and simply hate fireworks. And I think one begins to see the effect of it on people.

⁂ ⁂

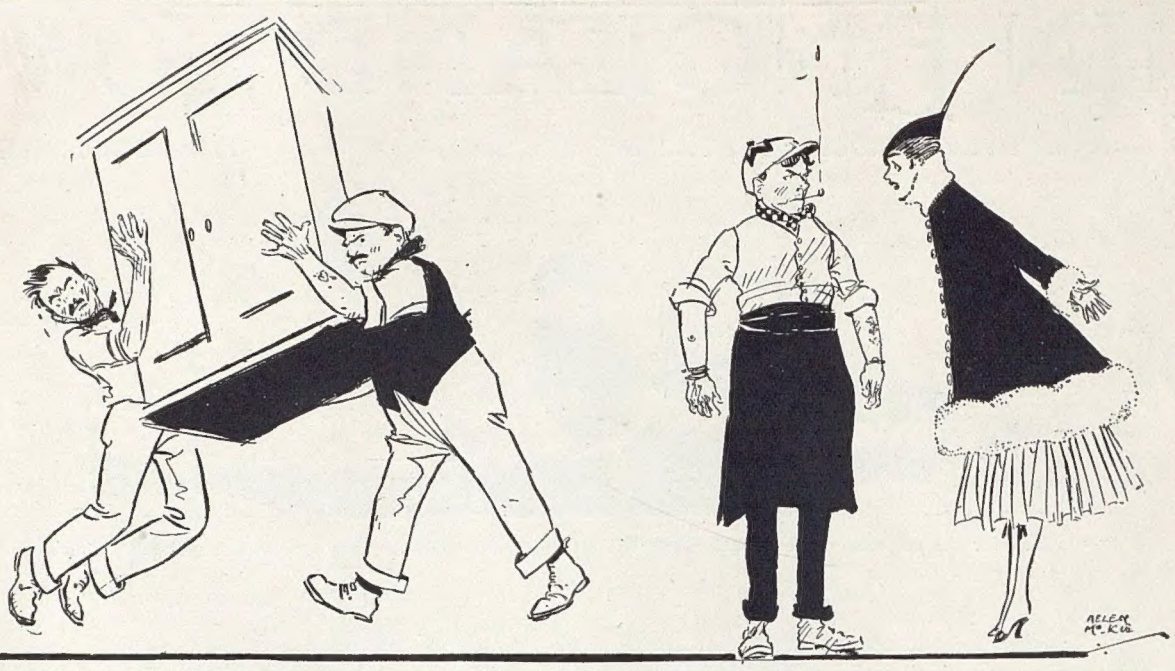
TALKING of adventurous enthusiasts, there's a true Canadian atmosphere in the story, in the Canadians' "Christmas Garland" I told you about, of the genial General who was inspecting transport and congratulated one teamster on his fine turn-out. "Thanks, Cap.," was the man's reply. "A little encouragement once in a while don't do a fellow any harm."

⁂ ⁂

AND about this. A wounded officer of the First Canadian Contingent was visited in his English hospital by one of the Second Contingent, who remarked in a superior tone, "We've had an awful time living down your reputation in England." "That so?" said the other. "Well, you'll have a dam

(*Continued on page 466*)

"IN ENGLAND—NOW!" (continued from page 465)



"The furniture-removing people are almost as lordly and independent as the telephone tyrants or the gas autocrats"

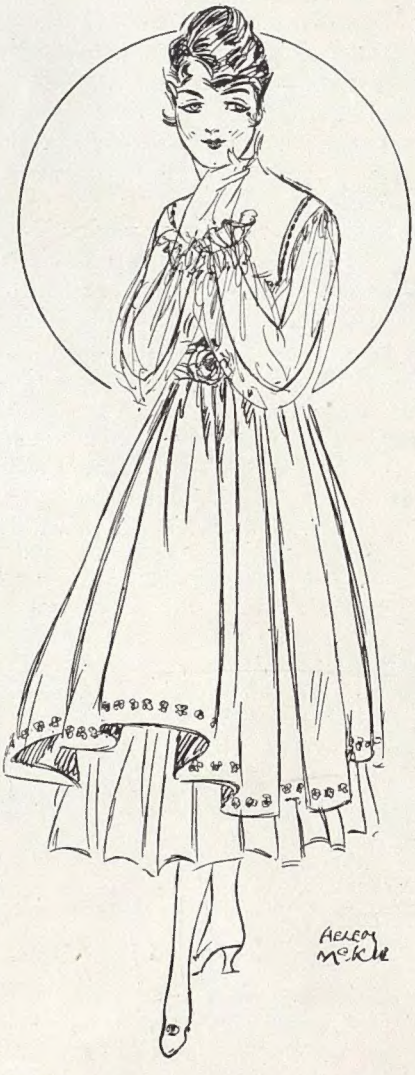
sight harder time living up to it when you get to France."

* *

Of course I love more than anything really getting so many nice letters from so many nice men, who, one of them says, aren't really nice, but out there just now, where it rains and rains and the transport lines are over a foot deep in mud and no one's feet are ever dry, are just dem'd moist unpleasant bodies, and inclined to be profane. But I think I've liked even better one I've just had from a mere woman, the wife of a Tempy Lieut. who's in a gunboat on the Tigris, where, she says, "it's something of a consolation to us wives to know that, anyway, Eve no longer baits the sterner sex with fruit." And, she adds, "Really life is rather a dull affair for us if we're good! In fact, I sometimes feel that we have the worst of the bargain. It's horrid to have no one to tell you how nice you are, even if you aren't."

* *

"I'd like you to know," she says, too, "that others besides the lads in the trenches and the silent Services also appreciate you and love your letters." Which, yes, I *am* glad and grateful to know. I do like a candid friend who's candid about the nice things, especially when it's a woman—so easy to make a man appreciate you. You've only got to smile and have a good dressmaker, and listen sweetly to all he's got to say about himself—men are all cast in the same mould, only some are mouldier than others, as they say in *To-Night's the Night*.



"It's horrid to have no one to tell you how nice you are, even if you aren't"

* *

But women—not so easy, and I always feel really quite fearfully complimented when they like you and say so. You see, there are no rosy spectacles and pink clouds of illusion to affect *their* vision. *They* like you, if they do, in spite of, and not because of, your sex.

* *

Only ten days to quarter day, and you never saw such a rush as there is on the furniture removing people, who are almost as lordly and independent as the telephone tyrants or the gas autocrats about doing what you want when you want it. Seems there's never been such a Lady Day for clearings-out. Evidently the Economy touch is beginning to catch on at last, for I haven't heard of anyone yet going from a small house to a big one or getting in more servants. It's all the other way round.

* *

'Course, the last are almost as defunct as the Dodo, except, I suppose, with dukes and millionaires, who can even compete with the Government in the way of princely salaries. One of the last parlourmaids I met has gone over, I hear, to the Lloyd George battalion. Gets £3 a week in munitions—

(Continued on page 468)

Her Grace—Presumptively—of Leinster

Photograph *Foulsham and Banfield*

LADY EDWARD FITZGERALD

Whose husband, through the death of his brother, Major and Adjutant Lord Desmond Fitzgerald, Irish Guards, who has been accidently killed at the Front, becomes heir-presumptive to the Dukedom of Leinster. He is a lieutenant in the 8th Battalion West Riding Regiment, having formerly served in the Irish Guards, and has been wounded. Lady Edward Fitzgerald was formerly Miss May Etheridge, a captivating musical comedy actress. They were married in 1913 and have a son who will be two years old in May

"IN ENGLAND—NOW!" (concluded from page 466)

though she's a treasure her mistress can't run to more than half that—not in war-time.

⁂ ⁂

TALKING of economy, I really was rather tickled the other night, dining with a Court official, to find only one sniffy old lady doing the combined jobs of the late butler and footman and a few others. And next day it was an even bigger shock to meet my once-Sybaritic host in, of all things, an L.C.C. tram, instead of the Rolls-Royce he generally rolls around in. But all isn't economy that looks like it. Butlers are rare as strawberries in November. Lord Derby's got all the footmen. And the Rolls-Royce was doing a rest-cure.

⁂ ⁂

APROPOS, I'm told it was one of *the* sights of the war, that funny Economy meeting at the Guildhall, where what a woman sarcastically described as the two bachelor heads of our two great spending departments chatted cheerfully about the urgent need for all civilians to save and save and save. Stalwart policemen in rows marshalled the *streams* of carriages and motor-cars—all driven by sturdy adults not obviously stricken in years or health—which brought the pioneers of the Economy movement, as Mr. McKenna called them, to and from the meeting.

⁂ ⁂

WHILE on the platform, pearls and furs and perfumes and carefully creased trousers and honey-and-flowered heads cordially applauded the exhortations to "rigid personal and household economy in everything." "No sacrifice," they nobly resolved, "is too great to ensure victory." But I suppose coming there by motor-'bus or tube would have been much too small a one.

⁂ ⁂

'COURSE it's all right to drive about in even the smushiest of motors, with cushions and even a second man on the box, if you can only raise a wounded or two, not too convalescend-looking, and put them where they'll show. As Ian Hay says in "The First Hundred Thousand," it's *dernier cri* to take a wounded officer about with you now. They've even superseded Pekinese. Which reminds me, some men in France were so filled with envy at one of Helen's pictures of us cheering up and generally looking after the dear woundeds, that some days, they tell me, they really felt like "stopping a pipsqueak or something."

⁂ ⁂

ONE of 'em wants to know if there's any fashion at home for the Slightly-Gasseds, as that would be a good deal more comfortable, he thinks, than some of the other sorts. Not that the men at the Front think very much of the risks *they* run—it's us at home they're worried about. "We had a Zepp over here last night," writes one at Salonica, "which tried to do the dirty on us. Right over us the swine was. I lay in my flea-bag in an awful funk, and have now come to the conclusion that London must be really quite dangerous for you at times."

With love, yours ever,

BLANCHE.

In Hyde Park—When?

WHAT WE MAY EXPECT WHEN ECONOMY IS DE RIGUEUR

Easier Said Than Done

TOMMY: "Say or do something to startle me, 'Arry. I've got the 'iccoughs suffink 'orrid"

"They Never Will Be Missed"

IV.—THE "PLEASE SPARE A GUINEA" PESTS

I READ that the Duke of Norfolk, one of the most munificent of our people, with a weighty deputation behind him, has begged the Home Secretary to grant State control of the Charity Funds of the War. Some thirty millions sterling have been subscribed, and with some of the funds, according to the good Duke, things are not quite as they should be. The Duke begged that licenses should be given to funds that are approved, and that all licensed charities should issue half-yearly balance-sheets. Furthermore, only necessary appeals should be authorised. Overlapping and undue administration cost were to be sternly dealt with. Surely our opinion of the Duke of Norfolk rises even higher than it was before.

SOME of our war charities are in every way splendid. They are controlled by the right people, who themselves subscribe generously, and every sovereign is carefully looked after. They give receipts for their money and issue detailed balance-sheets. But there are others, a whole legion of them, whose continued existence is a public scandal. At the Duke's deputation meeting the Chief Commissioner of Police stated that an ex-convict had started a fund. That was an extreme case, no doubt. But there are other funds whose origin and control is open to the gravest suspicion.

NOTHING is easier than to gain a reputation for philanthropy at the public expense. We have a multitude of titled persons who are very good-natured and shockingly careless. To any fair-seeming object they lend their names only too readily, particularly—in some cases—if they themselves are not asked to subscribe. And their names are so respectable and reassuring that the guineas flow in. The titled decoys never hear of the fund again, in all likelihood. Certainly they seldom inquire into it. The "Honorary Secretary" appoints his own "Committee," which may not even exist at all in the flesh, and in many cases never meets, and he is free to decide for himself what the outgoings for "administration" shall be.

MEANTIME all kinds of good fussy people with time on their hands play his game for him by collecting and making themselves an intolerable nuisance. It's "only a guinea" for this and "half-a-guinea" for that. One is badgered in shops, in clubs, in private houses, and the public street. One feels a pig if one refuses and a fool if one gives. The fund sounds as if it was all right; the vice-presidents' names are impressive—only everything has to be taken on trust. Now the Duke's License would make all the difference. We should know that we were not turning our backs on the needy because we were fearful of enriching rogues.

BUT direct personal appeals to be satisfied by immediate cash should be made illegal. All subscriptions should be sent to the fund and acknowledged officially. The granting of commission or a salary as a reward for "raising the wind" should be made an offence. And no charity entertainments should be allowed unless the whole of the receipts go intact to an authorised charity. How many guineas have we not been badgered into giving for tickets for inferior concerts, only to find that the profit over "expenses" is either trivial or non-existent?

THE wickedly loose machinery at present too frequently adopted for collecting money should also be made illegal. Street collections, collecting boxes in shops, all offer varying degrees of temptation and opportunities for scoundrelism. They should be done away with. The policy of direct official receipts for money given should be strictly insisted on.

NOR do I in consequence anticipate a falling-off in the sums raised. When the nation realises that its charity gifts are faithfully and wisely used we shall all give more readily. Besides, funds should depend on the merits of their appeal and the soundness of their economy, and not make a public nuisance of themselves. In this scheme I go further than the Duke, but I hope he will accompany me.

MR. SAMUEL, I gather, is troubled at the moment with some practical difficulties. He fears that if the State licenses the license will be accepted by the public as an absolute guarantee. But it could, and should, be generally understood that a license would carry with it nothing beyond this—(*a*) That the fund is necessary, and that the committee and officials are believed by the authority to be reputable and efficient; (*b*) that the administration and finance will be conducted under such conditions of audit and publicity as will enable subscribers to have a fuller knowledge. Company registration does not imply any State guarantee, but it has assisted immensely to minimise fraud. And, thanks to the examination by the Standing Charity Committee and to an annual report by a Registrar of Charities, the safeguards in this case would be greater than they are with limited companies.

THE Duke's proposals are limited, I understand to war charities during war-time. I feel that this is illogical and timorous. They should apply to all charities, all the time. In the new economy which the war will impose on us the money that we shall be able to spare for others will be limited. Without organisation it will not go where it is most urgently needed; without supervision it will not be best administered. It seems that Necessity is the Mother of System in this country. Well, it is time that we adopted "method" with regard to our charity millions.

Nothing Like Trench Life

FOR CLEARING AWAY THE COBWEBS

"MY MIND IS NOW CLEAR"

Colonel Churchill came back specially from the Front last week in order to make a speech on the Naval Estimates generally, and in particular to urge the recall to the Admiralty of Lord Fisher, the man whom he had so fiercely attacked the last time he spoke in the House. "I have been away for some months," he said "and my mind is now clear"—greatly to the delight of the House—while accounting for this sudden conversion. Our photograph shows him leaving his house with his wife en route for Westminster

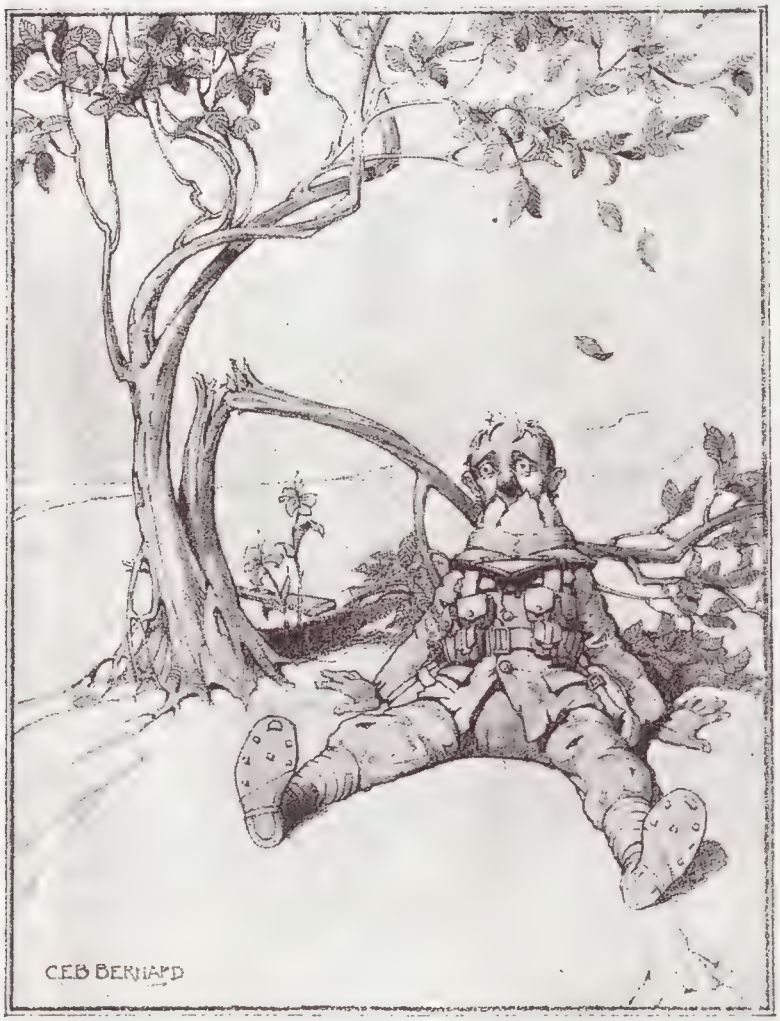
"Somewhere in Flanders"

ON THE TRAIL

BY "JACK JOHNSON"

MY DEAR BYSTANDER—

AMONG the variety of arduous duties which the egotism of the Kaiser has thrust upon my youthful shoulders is the kindling of a profound mistrust of every one with whom I contact. This comes under the head of Intelligence. It is, indeed, a sad state of affairs when that simple childlike faith in the uprightness of humanity that one used to cherish in pre-war days degenerates into a constant haunting suspicion of possible ulterior motives in the behaviour and conversation of those around you until, in time, the thing takes such a hold upon your impressionable young mind that it becomes a sort of second nature with you, and, unless the strictest attention be paid to diet, the patient finds himself succumbing rapidly to that distressing malady known to the medical fraternity as *sleutheronium espionis*, the final stages of which are characterised by a profound conviction on the part of the sufferer that he is, in reality, himself in the pay of the Germans, and ought to have himself shadowed night and day. And by the time they get him to the lunatic asylum he is prepared to give away in a hoarse scream the names of all his accomplices, provided he may be shot with his eyes unbandaged. It is a dreadfully sad disease. It is, indeed, essential that the strictest care be paid to the digestion. Many a time after eating a tough bit of badly cooked meat I have entertained the gravest suspicions that the man who cooked it is an enemy agent, paid thousands of pounds by the German Secret Service to relieve the Western Front of a personality compared with whom the man Holmes was but the veriest tyro.



THE SNIPER: "Back to the land!"

BY SECOND-LIEUT. C. E. BERNARD

* *

IT is an established fact that the best sleuth work is the outcome of indigestion. There are moments when, the digestive organs working nicely, I could see a square-headed man in a Homburg hat calling thickly to his dachshund and not a shadow of suspicion would cross my mind; there are moments, again, when I will rush across the street and rip open a civilian's bicycle tyre and search the inner tube for cypher messages, moments when I insist on combing down strangers' beards in the hope of discovering a carrier pigeon cleverly concealed in the heaven-sent fungus, moments—terrible moments—when my head will ache with wondering whether a Zouave in his baggy trousers may not have been tempted by the voluminosity of his apparel to secrete a portable wireless installation.

* *

I REMEMBER the time when a civilian coming to me and begging me with tears in his eyes to give him a pass to go to a neighbouring village to see his married sister, suffering severely from the dropsy, would have shaken me to the core, and, weeping softly, I would

(Continued on page 474)

MORE "FRAGMENTS FROM FRANCE"

The Intelligence Department

"Is this 'ere the Warwicks?"
"Nao. 'Indenburg's blinkin' Light Infantry"

BY CAPTAIN BRUCE BAIRNSFATHER

[*Captain Bairnsfather's sketches appear exclusively in "The Bystander" each week.*—ED.]

"SOMEWHERE IN FLANDERS" (concluded from page 472)

have dashed the permit at him in a frenzy of alacrity, with the offer of a car to rush him to the station. To-day I cross-examine the man with all the merciless persistence that is shown to a trunk murderer at the Old Bailey, finally (in many cases) recommending him to forward his married sister per parcel post a packet of Dr. Hackett's Glutinous Dropsy Tablets (to be taken twice daily in a glass of warm milk).

* *

IT is certainly a ruthless war. I don't suppose that anywhere there are any first-line trenches in which it is an actual pleasure to take up residence, but there are certainly trenches where one is not wholly miserable, and there are some who find that even the river Yser is not without its compensations.

* *

DIVIDED by a sheet of water two kilometres wide and 4½ feet deep, it is vouchsafed to the Belgians and the Huns to sit and sigh for each others blood in restful contemplation. There is nothing else to be done. Attack, by day or night, is a sheer impossibility, for the inundations extend in one unbroken sheet from parapet to parapet, and the warriors on either side—once the matutinal strafe is o'er—are fast developing the piscatorial science to a degree which would win for them the unstinted admiration of every Thames-side angler from Maidenhead to Putney Bridge. Excellent sport is to be obtained from the turbid overflow of the Yser. Bream, roach, and other monsters of the deep are to be found here in abundance; and devotees of boating, too, are offered an expanse of water embracing all the attractions of the Norfolk Broads without the irksome obligation of settling up with the boatman on the return, a distressing feature of modern times which mars too many of the rural joys of life.

* *

I OUGHT, perhaps, to mention that there are certain grim moments when the odorous waters swell in volume and overflow the parapet, but, then, one cannot have everything as one would order it in this Boche-infested world.

Yours ever,

JACK JOHNSON

Matters of No Moment

SPRING FASHIONS

The patriot who would do his bit,
Must wear a suit that doesn't fit;
And soon upon our London stage
(Always a mirror to the Age)
Our leading actors will appear
Garbed in the clothes of yester-year.

WHEN JACK COMES BACK

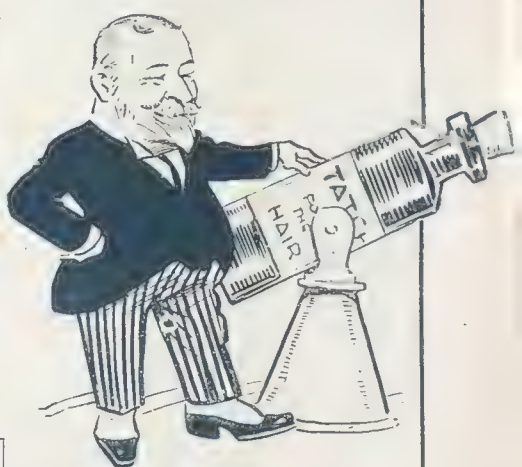
My name is Jack Fisher,
There isn't a Hun
Who doesn't detest me for
What I have done;
So one of these days I am
Sending the Fleet
To blow 'em to blazes—by
Way of a treat.
And when I have finally
Scuppered the lot,
I don't care a damn if
They're angry or not!

MORE FRIGHTFULNESS

There was a frightful fellow once
Lived on the river Spree,
Since war began, there was no man
So full of fright as he.
He looked across the angry main—
Then took his glasses off again.

THE GENTLE PACIFIST

I'm Samuel Stiggins, I read with delight
The piffle pale Parliamentarians write.
I've always considered that it is a sin
To anger the Prussians by rubbing it in.
Oh! let us be kind to each dear little Hun,
That he may be sorry for what he has done.



"WANTED—A MAN."

Dear George, while England stands aghast
At stories of your awful past,
Lord Northcliffe in lugubrious strain
Calls for "a man"—yet calls in vain.
How strangely he the point has missed,
You are the great 'Air Specialist.

A Random Review

The Bystander in PARIS

"She got out of a long and expensive motor-car"

MIDINETTES GET THE NEEDLE

Of course I know that my old friend, Barry Pain, is not quite as popular now as he used to be before he went for the dogs. But I love him and his work—particularly his old work—and a bit of it danced in my mind the other afternoon. May I quote it?

"I met her. She sat down at the piano, and stroked it as if it were a lap-dog. She was quite tender in her movements, and she sang: 'Once in the deeeeer dead dyes beyond recall.' Shortly afterwards she said that she wanted to live a useful life. That sort of thing stamps a woman."

❀

My edition of the book in which that was published, "In a Canadian Canoe," is a quarter of a century old, exactly. And yet we have met her recently . . . what? She got out of a long and expensive motor-car, scattered furs about, rustled silkily, popped expensive cakes into her little mouth, and talked about economy. I asked her if she knew the wages of the young woman who had made her hat, and she told me not to be horrid. Then she said that she was longing to do something really useful. That sort of thing stamps a . . ., but I am quoting Barry Pain. I suppose the history of the war will be written some day, and our grandchildren will treat it as we in our youth treated "Bancroft's History of the United States." They will get it given to them in a handsome binding on their birthday, thank Auntie for her kindness (and whisper their private opinion of her), and then the dust will accumulate. But there is one chapter in the history of the war that will be very interesting reading. It will be the chapter describing how everybody told everybody else how to economise. I am not sure that it won't require a volume to itself.

❀

Here in Paris an immense amount of good advice has been given to the *midinettes*. The Paris *midinette* belongs to the class which is supposed to live on hard work and . . . particularly "and." . . . . So since the beginning of the war, when the scarcity of male help began to make itself felt, the poor *midinette* has had a very rough time of it. At the beginning of things nobody wanted new dresses or new hats or new anything. It was rather *chic* to be shabby. Besides, rather an awkward discovery was made with regard to some of the dressmakers *très Parisiens*. These manufacturers of Paris taste and Paris *chic* proved, in some cases, to be more or less Boche, and rather more Boche than less. Awkward, wasn't it?

❀

So some establishments remained closed for one reason and some for another, and there was no call for new hats either. In fact, a felt hat which used to be quite taboo in Paris when the sun came out in early April became *the* thing to wear out of season because it was war-time. Then the Parisienne grew tired of getting the cook to remake last season's dress, and that elusive goddess, Madame Mode, decided that everything should be quite different. You know how different everything is, don't you? Things being

(Continued on page 476)

THE BYSTANDER IN PARIS (concluded from page 475)

thuswise, the *midinettes* who had been living on their own finger-tips for some months began to use them again. But—*voilà*.

⁂

ABOUT this time everybody began to tell everybody else how to economise, and tradesmen seized the opportunity, as tradesmen will. Of course, nothing of the sort ever happened at home. You have never heard, have you, of Ministers pocketing their five thousand and M.P.'s their four hundred a year with their left hands, while the right hands, unaware, as they have been taught to be, of what the other hand is doing, have been raised to emphasise good advice to humbler folk on the absurdity of smoking tobacco, putting sugar in their tea, and what not?

⁂

SO the dressmakers and hat-makers of Paris explained to the *midinette* that *midinettes* were quite a drug in the market really, that they had been living very extravagantly, that *qu'est-ce que vous voulez, c'est la guerre,* and things of that kind. They explained to their customers that *qu'est-ce que vous voulez, c'est la guerre,* and put the price of clothes and hats up, while that ignorant other hand reduced the wages of the *midinettes* to vanishing point. I have always been very fond of the Paris *midinette*. She always looks pretty, whether she is or not. She has a wonderful knack of being cheerful in all circumstances, and till the war came she always managed to make good somehow because. . . But now, you see, all the men are at the war.

⁂

I HAVE been making inquiries. I find that a very well-known Paris hat shop with a big London branch refuses to give any wages whatsoever to the *midinettes* it sends to London. The London branch feeds them and . . . well, and. . . . I find that there are establishments in Paris paying *mannequins* sixty centimes (6*d*.) a day. And that is all they get in addition to their food. So the *midinettes* are working a great deal and starving a good deal and crying a little, and the dressmakers and *modistes* are smoking big cigars and saying "*C'est la guerre,*" and the customers are having tea at Rumpelmayer's and telling other people how to economise, and we poor journalists are wondering why the penury of paper pulp should make it so hard for us to pay our rent. Happy days.

JOHN N. RAPHAEL

"The Parisienne grew tired of getting the cook to re-make last season's dress"

"The dressmakers and hat-makers of Paris explained that midinettes were quite a drug in the market really"

Le Dernier Cri de Paris

TWO NEAT ADAPTATIONS OF THE HIGH COLLAR AND DIMINUTIVE CAPE

MANTLE FOR WEAR IN TOWN

Of cloth with collar, cuffs and ceinture of soft white leather

VISITING GOWN OF CHARMEUSE

With chiffon cape held loosely in position back and front by four bands

The Education o

WAR RE

of the Masses

ELICS

Who is the Enemy?

GERMANY'S UNPHILOSOPHIC DOUBT

IT seems that after nineteen months of war Germany is unable to state with any precision which of the Powers fighting against her is her real enemy. The opinions on the subject are so diverse that you get the impression that some of the authorities are under the horrid apprehension that Germany may have gone to war with some of her dearest friends in mistake.

❋ ❋

AT the commencement of the war *the* enemy was, of course, Russia. Russia was positively sending her half-civilised Tartars into German territory to pollute the atmosphere and contaminate Kultur. When Russia began to retreat, however, the oracles came to the conclusion that she didn't mean any real harm, and that if she did it was of no consequence. Her little pretence at making war was to be looked upon more in sorrow than in anger.

❋ ❋

THEN the oracles had a brain-wave. It was so obvious that they wondered that it hadn't occurred to them before. Germany had one foe and one alone, and that was—England. England had actually dared to interfere in Germany's private war! We were solemnly told that the highly respectable *bourgeois* would sit down and nurse his *Bierbauch* for a quarter of an hour every day while he imparted to Heaven his personal instructions as to what ought to happen to the "Fog-Bound Land of Perfidy." And when dear old friends parted, they added to the conventional "*Wiederseh'n!*" the newly made patriotic tag, "*Gott strafe England!*" The only tangible result of this childish nonsense is that the word "strafe" has now been added to the English language. I shall look for it in the next edition of Nuttall with every confidence. Next came Herr Doktor Ernst Lissauer's justly celebrated "Hymn of Hate," the frantic success of which Lissauer (being a man of parts) has since deplored. Besides, to those unfamiliar with the language, it may be explained that the German word for hatred is—*Hass!* It speaks for itself.

❋ ❋

MORE recently the All-Highest himself stepped into the arena with the news that it is France who is Germany's chief enemy. One would have thought that the verdict of the King-Emperor would have been final. Apparently it is not so. The latest exponent of the truth is Major Moraht, who now deplores the fact that Fr[illegible] should be considered an enemy of Germany, when the two nations standing hand-in-hand might dominate the world. Major Moraht cannot, apparently, rid himself of the Teutonic obsession that the world needs dominating, when, as a clear matter of fact, there is really no demand for the goods.

❋ ❋

THE gallant, but forgetful, Major also overlooks the fact that he was until recently a disciple of the garrulous Bernhardi, whose chief tenet was that it must be Germany's business to crush France so completely that she would never cross Germany's path again. And here is France not only crossing that path, but impudently refusing to stand aside and let Germany pass. Still, according to Moraht, who really has a right to speak, France is not the enemy.

❋ ❋

IT is written that in a multitude of counsellors there is wisdom. It is written also that too many cooks spoil the broth. And it is permissible now for us to wonder whether Germany's oracles are counsellors or cooks. Certainly some of their recent reports of military operations show them to be fairly expert at—cooking. Germany has long claimed to be the home of true philosophy, but it would seem as though logic and consistency were not strong points with her military caste. One of the best German friends I ever had was formerly a Professor of Logic at Leipzig University. I can only suppose that he found himself at last confronted by a hopeless task; for he came to London and started a comic paper instead.

❋ ❋

BUT out of all this tangled skein of clashing opinions one deduction is obvious. It is that Germany's real and hereditary enemy is—herself.

A. G.

FRIGHTFULNESS AT HOME

GERMAN OFFICER (*home for a little "rest cure"*): "I'll teach those gold fish . . . snapping at *me*"

The Economy Campaign

THE BROWN-JONES FAMILY'S PRACTICAL WAY OF TACKLING THE SITUATION

MAN And How To MANAGE HIM

BY "EFEMERA"
Illustrated by Hill Clarke

FIRST catch your man. It is not much use to study the management of the animal unless you have, at least in prospect, the ownership of one. In this connection it may not be amiss to consider a few practical hints on the art of ensnaring the elusive male. This is a subject on which many mothers fail adequately to instruct their daughters. They seem to take it for granted that the art of catching a husband is every girl's birthright, which it most emphatically is not. You have only to look about you to see the lamentable ignorance displayed on all sides, also the number of men who manage to achieve old-bachelordom—a poor tribute to feminine tactics.

❊ ❊

THERE are, of course, certain fixed rules, handed down from time immemorial, but what the uninstructed neophyte fails to take into account is that any rule dealing with human nature must be varied according to the character of the victim—I beg your pardon—the *subject*. We will return to the question of types later; for the moment let us begin with the opening move of the game.

❊ ❊

THE first thing is to attract the attention of the man you have marked down as a possible partner. Since you never can tell where you may meet him, it is unwise to appear in public unless armed for conquest. Begin by studying your own type—if you are of the athletic or "sensible" variety, don't go in for frills and fallals: you will only make a guy of yourself, and send every male creature flying in the opposite direction. If, on the contrary, you are a fluffy, doll-like little person, let nothing, not even the wiles of the tailor or the example of your dearest and most successful girl-friend, induce you to adopt a severe, semi-masculine style of attire.

"He rather enjoys it, so long as the glad eye is reserved for him only"

❊ ❊

VIVACITY of manner is a good card, if you can play it naturally, and a wandering eye slays its thousands. This last, however, must be used discreetly and with the utmost discrimination. A timid man is easily frightened if he thinks you of too coming-on a disposition. You must behave warily until you have him fairly hooked. The bolder type won't mind your making eyes at him—in fact, he rather enjoys it, so long as the glad eye is reserved for him only. Let him but guess that others enjoy the merry glint and you are done. No man can endure the thought of being made to appear a fool, and until you are sure of him you must walk like King Agag of delicate memory.

❊ ❊

IT does no girl harm to possess a number of admirers, but she must beware of seeming to lead men on. That is a reputation as fatal to serious business as that of the neglected wallflower. No man wants to marry a negligible quantity—or a damsel whom others hold cheap.

(Continued on page 484)

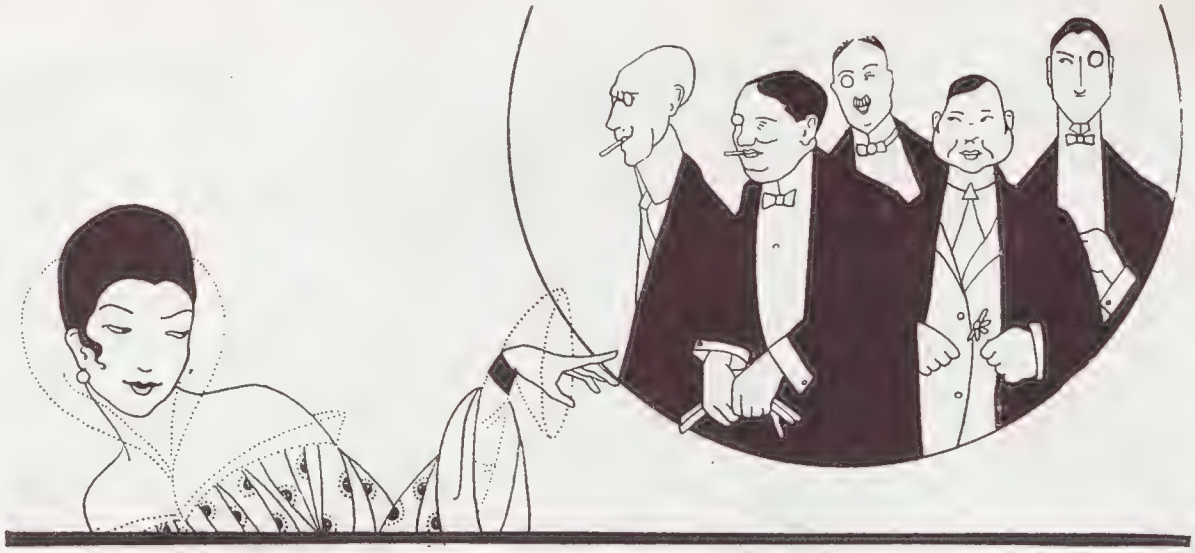
"The Girl on the Magazine"

Photograph *Foulsham and Banfield*

MISS C. GUIVER

Who is playing with distinction in the super-excellent Empire Revue "Follow the Crowd." She is one of the four girls in the Railway Station scene who step down in turn from the poster advertisement of the cover of a magazine exhibited on the platform and join Mr. Joseph Coyne in the singing of his novel song "The Girl on the Magazine"

MAN, AND HOW TO MANAGE HIM (concluded from page 482)



"It does no girl harm to possess a number of admirers, but she must beware of seeming to lead men on"

WHEN you have attracted your prey the next thing is to hold him. If you can arouse his curiosity, so much the better: little hints of hesitation, a touch of mystery here and there will greatly enhance your value in his eyes. Man is a hunter by nature, and it is your business to increase the pleasure and excitement of the chase by an appearance of elusiveness, at the same time taking care not to raise difficulties to the point of discouragement. Capriciousness works beautifully with some men, but others detest it, and with these reserve, within limitations, is the best play.

❀ ❀

IF you have chosen a man no longer in his first youth, deference is the last thing to show—that only goes down with the very young. The older a man is, the more he likes to be treated with playful, even flirtatious, daring. It subtracts years from his age. Only callow youth insists on its dignified superiority and requires to be taken seriously.

❀ ❀

BIG, strong men, overbearing among their fellows, enjoy being domineered over by a frivolous slip of a thing in petticoats. They seem to find an extraordinary fascination in being bullied by a winsome bunch of frills. On the other hand, the small, neat man likes to be looked up to. Never make the mistake of trying to bully him. His dignity is his most precious possession, and woe to anyone who threatens it. He is by nature your true domestic tyrant.

❀ ❀

AS for flattery—well, any man can be flattered. But only the very highest kind is attained by the woman who loves the game for its own sake. She uses a discreet blend compounded of comprehension, implication, and the very subtlest adulation: the sort of thing that makes a man feel that no one before in the course of his whole existence has come within a mile of understanding him. He feels himself appreciated, wrapped in an atmosphere of delightful warmth and softness. Flattery of this sort is not an artifice, it is a fine art.

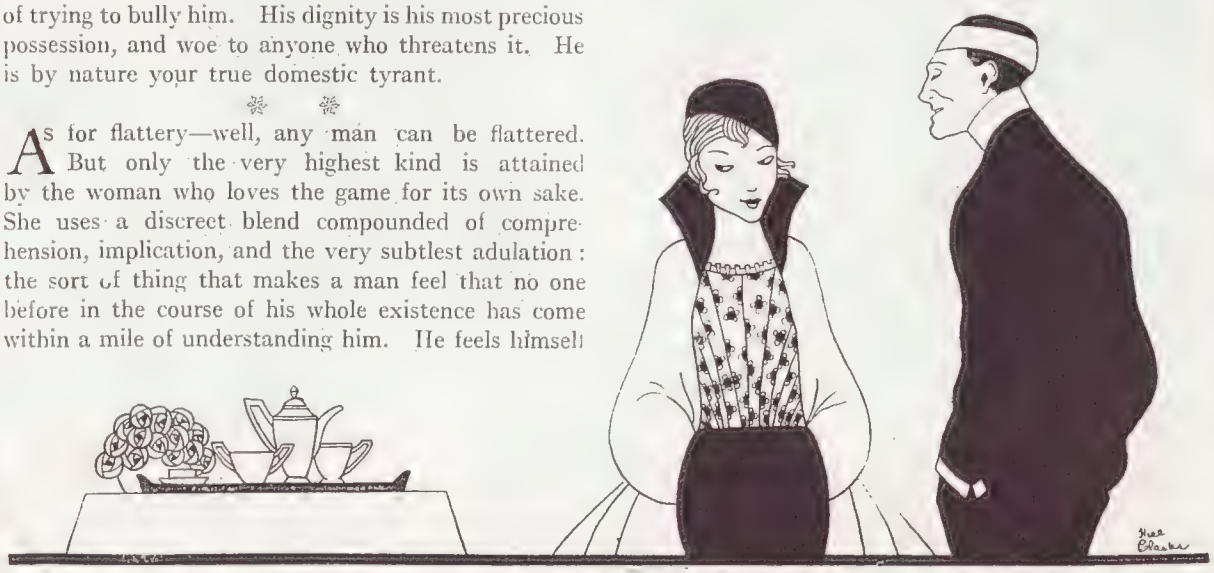
❀ ❀

BUT the most reliable weapon of all is sympathy. And let me say in this connection that the cleverest sham is bound to wear thin and break under the smallest strain. You will find it best, in the long run, to cultivate the genuine article. You will always, in every relationship in life, find it come in useful. Sympathy will, in the end, outclass all other charms, singly or combined. It is, in all cases, a sure tip.

❀ ❀

I HAVE seen sympathy alone responsible for marriages both happy and "good," from the worldly point of view. It is especially successful in cases where a man is suffering from a disastrous love affair, if used in accordance with an ancient recipe. Cure for a broken heart—apply a fresh girl to the wound. If the "fresh girl" has the gift of sympathy, one can almost bet on the result. Nothing is so helpless and so malleable in the hands of a sympathetic woman as a disappointed man of whatever age. Remember, too, that if womanliness is to be the feminine keynote of the immediate future, nothing is so utterly womanly as sympathy.

EFEMERA



"Nothing is so utterly womanly as sympathy"

The Bear-Hunt

TURKISH OPTIMIST: "Everything is quite all right, I'm bringing him home alive"

BY STARR JOHNS

LONDON NIGHTS ENTERTAINMENTS

"The Passing Show" at the Palladium

BY "JINGLE." ILLUSTRATED BY NORMAN MORROW

THE chief item at the Palladium on the evening of our visit was the Revue, *The Passing Show*, which appeared some time ago "in another place." The Revue has been brought up-to-date, and as we saw it, it had become practically one long turn for Miss Ella Retford and Mr. Fred Duprez, an American comedian, who is a host in himself. Mr. Duprez is now "The Showman" of the Revue, the guide who personally conducts us through the various scenes, and, as it were, guarantees them genuine goods. He is not above jesting at the expense of his nationality, either. At one point during the evening, while he is delivering a humorous discourse on nothing in particular, he mentions the fact that his wife and he never fight. "You see, we are Americans, and. . ." The little quip was caught up at once, and the last part of it was drowned in a robust roar of mirth. President Wilson's awkward little slip of the tongue has had a wider popularity than its distinguished author intended.

MISS ELLA RETFORD is, however, the bright particular star of the Revue. Her energy and versatility are amazing, and she does everything well. At one moment she is an Irish Colleen (I believe that's what they call the Irish girls, but if I am wrong I have no doubt Mr. Morrow will be only too pleased to correct me, with characteristic emphasis). At another moment Miss Retford is seen as a young man about town in a faultless suit of evening-dress, though, personally, I think when a lady is so well suited to adorn the attire of her own sex she is wasted in trousers. In this scene Mr. Duprez is the stage door-keeper of a theatre, and his business is to keep inquisitive admirers off the doorstep, as it were. Once, however, he makes a rather serious mistake. A lady calls and wants to see one of the star-actors. It is not till after the door-keeper has assured the dear lady that she is only one of many on the same errand, that she explains in severely chilling accents that she is the gentleman's wife. But you could hardly blame the door-keeper for his little mistake. He could have had no precedent for such an occurrence.

ROMEO AND JULIET UP-TO-DATE

MISS RETFORD has a little scene all to herself later on, when she gives the usual "few impressions" of actors and actresses, thus showing herself to be a mimic of very superior quality. In between a couple of imitations she turned her back for a moment and re-appeared before the audience as a remarkable imitation of Charlie Chaplin, the best advertised man in the world. It was a clever piece of fooling, and was very properly received with a tumult of applause.

MR. GWILYM WIGLEY had a very cordial reception for his song, "Blonde et Brune," which was illustrated by the parties concerned. Miss Lisette Marchand was a lovely blonde and Miss Violette Tarr was an equally attractive brunette. Mr. Paul England was the Beau who hesitated between the two, and I really could not blame him. You know how it is. You meet a girl who seems to you absolutely the idol of your dreams, and then the next minute you meet another girl, and wonder what on earth you could have seen in the first one. And so on. While Mr. Wigley was singing the descriptive details, the Beau had first one of the sweet girls in his arms and then the other; and finally, as this partiality seemed to make them jealous, he put an arm round each and hugged them both at once. I have heard that an actor's life is a very hard one; but it is clear to me that it has its compensations.

THE scene entitled "A Travesty" is very well conducted. Here the idea is that a very rich lady, appropriately named "Mrs. Lotta Cash," is anxious to acquire a copy of the justly celebrated group of statuary known as "The Dying Gladiator." Having no copy of the group in stock, the Showman hurriedly improvises something of the kind with the help of a couple of professional actors, who are whitened up for the purpose, and then posed on a pedestal for inspection by the customer, in the trustful hope that she will not know the difference between art and nature. It is all nonsense of the simplest kind, of course, and it is exaggerated at that by the inability

(*Continued on page 488*)

Brightness and Beauty in Revue

"The Passing Show" which has already won golden opinions elsewhere, was recently transferred to the Palladium. The new company concerned has nothing to fear by comparison with the original production, the Palladium version being a splendid feast of loveliness and laughter

LONDON NIGHTS' ENTERTAINMENTS (concluded from page 486)

of the living statues to keep themselves still enough to preserve the illusion. Mr. Duprez is in very good form here, while the two gladiators, who have a way of changing the subject of the statue without warning, are excellently represented by Mr. Deane Tribune and Mr. Claude Lester.

❋

"MRS. LOTTA CASH" is impersonated by Miss Estelle Cerrero, who later on in the Revue appears as a "dresser" to the ladies, and who is caught carrying to her charges a suspicious-looking bottle and glass, in spite of the theatrical rule that that sort of thing (which, by the way, is not fashionable now) must be consumed off the premises.

❋

ANOTHER distinguished member of the company is Mr. Paul England, who is "Gilbert the Filbert," the original representative of which part, it may be remembered, went to join His Majesty's Forces amid loud cheering and waving of handkerchiefs. The Revue was quite lavishly and tastefully mounted, the carnival scene having a special charm of its own; while the chorus has been selected by someone who is an excellent judge of pretty girls. And I have heard it rumoured that when the boys from the trenches get back to Blighty for a few days' leave they usually make a bee line for the show that can boast of the comeliest chorus. JINGLE

Photograph *E. O. Hoppé*

MISS TOMMY CLANCY

A charming and versatile young actress, who will shortly be seen in an important West End production. She made a successful appearance in "Pinkie and the Fairies," and has since played leading parts at various London Theatres

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In war-time reputations are difficult to maintain and easily lost. Throughout the war the House has adhered rigidly to the policy of refusing to supply any officer with any material or article of kit which it cannot guarantee as the best possible to procure. This policy has been maintained not only from commercial instincts, but because it considers it little short of criminal to allow officers to purchase rubbish which the producers must know can never stand the strain of active service.

The prices charged are moderate because they are for net cash, and because the House is probably the largest buyer of officers' khaki in London. The trading profit on the production cost has been reduced to the minimum possible, but if it were double the amount the charges would be correspondingly increased rather than any reduction in the quality would be entertained.

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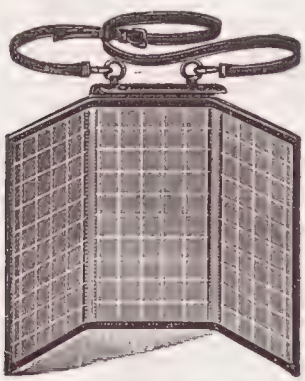

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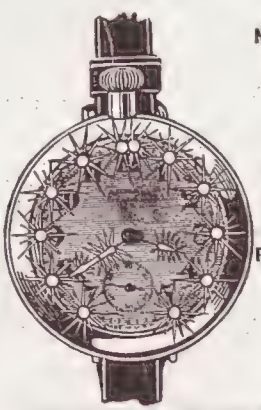

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Get-Rich-Quick Norway

BY THE BYSTANDER IN CHRISTIANIA

"Go West!" said the great Horace Greely, when asked for counsel by would-be millionaires. "Come North-East!" —that is, *viâ* Newcastle-and-Bergen —says the Bystander in Christiania. He says this after a special trip made in order to examine the amazing millionaire prosperity of North Europe's once most modest, muddy metropolis.

NORWAY beats all other small neutral States in the profits she is reaping from the war. She is topping the crest of an unexampled shipping boom, the surprising feature of which is that no one has yet gone smash, while thousands who once were smashed are now millionaires (in crowns). They are building villas, importing autos, telephoning to French champagne agents, and swaggering down the Karl Johann Gade, which was once as dull as Putney High Street, and to-day roars, glows, and glitters like Piccadilly Circus.

ENGLAND, as usual, is responsible. She "oppresses" the poor little neutrals' trade. She has oppressed Norway's shipping trade into a boom. Norway's speciality is buying up ancient, unprofitable tubs, and running them economically. When war began, the shipowners took fright. "Business is ruined!" Ex-Premier Michelsen, of Bergen, sold in a hurry all his fine ships. Within a few weeks the boom began, and ships became as dear in Norway as caviare is in Berlin.

SO began the age of "foundations." "*Gründerthum*," as our kultured cousins say. Capital was plentiful. Norway's business in soda, saltpetre, iron, aluminium, dairy products was flourishing. The shipping companies easily got the capital they needed. Operations were extended, ships were hunted for; tubs worth £2 a ton were bought for £20 a ton; and so many new companies were started that the *Sea Traffic Journal* increased its number of pages from eight to twenty.

THEN began speculation. The inevitable "Exchange" was started in the inevitable Grand Hotel; and the rival Exchange of Russo-Germano-Jewish contraband dealers was elbowed out. In two months in small Christiania fifty new *maklare* (outside broker) firms were founded. Newspapers told how a youth of eighteen, whose "office" was a telephone in a cigar-shop, made £30,000. All day long the hotel lounge buzzed with the words Nordstrand, Ulla, Besem, Glenor, Flores, Segelfors, and a dozen other new steamship companies.

THE *maklares* flourished. No money need be paid down when you applied for shares; and the brokers knew that before allotment they could re-sell to the public at a big premium. One new company's shares went up 90 per cent. a day after the lists were closed. Speculators worth 2 crowns 75 öre "bought" shares worth 500,000 crowns; and sold them profitably. At last the crowd of "brokers," speculators, and profit-seeking widows grew so big and noisy that scenes ensued.

SCANDINAVIA'S newspapers are full of the "*Svindelsspekulation*." This does not mean "swindling specs"; it means specs which make you giddy. Moralists put it down to wicked England, which continues to oppress neutral trade. When England four months back started the Anglo-Russo-Swedish Transit Company to supervise Anglo-Russian trade *viâ* Sweden, she made a rule that such trade, when going by the Finnish land route, should enter and leave Norwegian, not Swedish, ports. This helped the boom.

THE boom will not last for ever. Warnings have been issued; and the *Dagens Nyheter*, the Copenhagen *Politiken*, and other big journals emphasise them. Christiania's banks this month declare they will not lend more than 50 per cent. of the quoted price of even old-established companies' stocks. The boom depends on the duration of the war. Speculators know this; and in their contracts to buy villas, yachts, and estates they insert the clause: "This contract is not binding if the war ends by the ——, 191—." The speculators are "six-months-men," "year-men," and "two-years-men," according as their calculations of profit are based on a short war or a long one. A "two-years-man" will go smash if the war ends in six months.

ALAS! the unsympathising Governments are meddling. Norway has drafted a law imposing a tax of 75 öre a ton on steamers. Sweden, whose steamers were vanishing in Norway's maw, has a new law forbidding sale of ships to foreigners during the war. Still, these are trifles. So said my auto-driver (an ex-P. and O. seaman) as I drove from the Central Station. He based his judgment on the fact that his brother, a turbine mechanic, made £7,000 in the boom.

EMPTY REJOICINGS

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The Great Banality

AND THE SORT OF THING IT LEADS TO

It was Ventricosus, seated ponderously (if you know what I mean) in the Brighton Pullman, who committed the Great Banality. That is to say, he said it first. Had he not done so, Macer, to whom, seated opposite, he addressed himself, would have become the guilty party.

Superficially, it came better from Ventricosus. He was stout, wore gold-rimmed *pince-nez*, and a white slip under his waistcoat. His vest was adorned by a large gold Albert, which appeared to be straining every link to keep that garment within the bounds of decency. The hair upon his head was thin, and so arranged as best to cover the improprieties of a naked scalp.

His acquaintance, who shared the amenities of the little glass-topped table and the matches in the tin stand, was of a different type. His legs were long and, probably, thin. Even when seated in his yellow plush *fauteuil* he was inclined to stoop. His moustache was large and silky, much tinged with grey, as was his hair, and between his eyes, the cold stare of which augmented the effect, was a deep furrow suggesting ill-temper or the habit of continual and dissatisfied introspection.

Ventricosus said, "How long—do er—do you—ah—suppose this war's going to last?" He said it just as he sat, and dressed, and lived, and bought shares, ponderously.

When you buy shares, as Ventricosus did, in this way, their value immediately rises. There is a sensation of weight behind them in the current opinion of those shares. So when Ventricosus committed the Great Banality, as he often did—Ventricosi often do—he gave the impression that, though his question was not, perhaps, quite original, there was so little between it and complete originality as to be a negligible quantity.

Now, there are several stereotyped answers to this question, made variously, according to the class, age, and discretion of the interrogated. Some people say, "Neow ye rawskin'!" Others ejaculate, "God knows!" or "Ask K. of K.!" (These two are interchangeable, and mean in the minds of the ejaculators practically the same thing.) Some say, "Next summer ought to see it through," and again others, "Two years more, my boy" (lighting a cigar).

Macer said none of these things. He lowered his paper and stared hard at his *vis-à-vis*. He said, "Do you see there's another rise in maize?—absolutely artificial, too. Every day the war is costing us five millions, and prices are going up all round. The worst of it is the whole thing is absolute waste. You ask how long it's going to last. All I can tell you is that for every man killed by a shell over there"—and he pointed South over the Downs toward the Channel—"two are going to die of starvation when the reckoning comes later on."

Ventricosus chuckled. "My dear sir," he said, "how do you make that out?"

Macer regarded him with a look that rather indicated pain than surprise. His eyebrows were slightly raised, and the furrow between his eyes grew deeper. He stooped still lower in his chair, and thrust out his head, much in the manner of a hen making a step. "Because," he replied, "every soldier we send either out to France, to the Balkans, or anywhere else, is a unit in the great Army of wasted labour. Because every rifle, every gun, every shell and bullet that the munition-workers are turning out is so much waste. You see, all these men are unproductive; all these munition-workers might be employed in producing those things which are essential to life and happiness."

"I see what you are getting at," said Ventricosus, smiling at the other's vehemence. "You're one of those fellows that read Mill and think that life would be all lovely if it weren't for those selfish fellows who insist on being surrounded with luxuries. I don't

(Continued on page 494)

PAYMENT IN NOTES

A German Professor has solved the problem of paying the Army economically by employing a tenor singer to give the men their money's worth

THE GREAT BANALITY (*concluded from page 493*)

know much about Mill, but I know he's supposed to have said that poverty would be non-existent in a State where luxuries were neither produced nor imported. Personally, I think that's absolute bunkum."

Macer leant back in his chair. "And I suppose you regard your prosperity as largely due to the war?" he said. Ventricosus was obviously not worth the trouble of argument.

"Well, to some extent, perhaps, to some extent. But we did very nicely in 1913. Our trouble now is to find the men. We can't get enough, and those we've got are mostly the old stagers. Of course, we are paying all those who've enlisted while they're on service. But it doesn't amount to very much now. Our Roll of Honour's the biggest in the motor trade. And that reminds me of another point. Do we hear of unemployment these days? Not likely. The only trouble is that there aren't enough employés I shouldn't think there's a man out of work in the country."

"Very likely not," replied Macer. He was quite frankly bored with Ventricosus' conversation, and was about to open his *Times* again, when his attention was drawn by a khaki-clad figure sitting in a neighbouring chair. He was a corporal of R.A.M.C., and was leaning over towards the two of them. "You will excuse my intrusion, gentlemen, I hope," he said (Macer's eyebrows had very perceptibly been raised), "but I couldn't help over-hearing your conversation just now, and if you will forgive me, may I suggest that in this matter you've each got hold of an opposite end of the stick, and they're wrong ends?"

Macer raised his eyebrows again. Ventricosus eyed the speaker with a tolerating smile. The corporal continued. He addressed Macer. "Your theory, sir," he said, "would be prefectly right if you base it upon the supposition that War is, in these times of civilisation and *Kultur*, an absolutely unnecessary evil. That theory, I think, you must agree, if you consider the matter fairly, falls to the ground. In the first place, a large part of Europe is still uncivilised, and, in the second, no sensible man would call this country or France or Russia or Belgium a Christian country. It's mere hypocrisy to suggest it. Only make your premise that this war is essential to a lasting peace, and you can at once see that however much we spend upon it, however many shells (that have taken many hours of patient toil to make) are blown to pieces in a moment, yet all this vast expenditure is merely like the outlay of so much capital upon the world's commerce. It is a species of vast endurance for the benefits of peace.

"The most important thing we have to see to is that the years of peace between one war and another are sufficient to supply a large enough interest upon the money outlaid, and the increased opportunities for a prosperous life for the survivors and their children compensate for the lives laid down in the country's hour of need."

"Yes, yes, of course, very nicely put," was Macer's condescending comment, as he prepared to get out of the train, which was drawing up at the platform. And Corporal the Earl of C——, R.A.M.C., followed them out of the carriage, smiling seraphically. H. B. A.

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We invite ladies to inspect the new models now being shown in our Costume Salon. The accompanying sketch illustrates two typical examples of our styles and values.

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R.S. Dagmar *R.S. Muriel*

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Books of the Week

AN AMERICAN WOMAN ON THE WAR

American War Letters

MARIE VAN VORST is a well-known American novelist who achieved some success in this country with her *Big Tremayne*. In *War Letters from an American Woman* (Lane: 5*s.* net) she gives a series of her own letters to friends written during the present war. Some were written from France or Italy, others from London or New York. They are not very different from other people's letters, but Miss Van Vorst, while travelling about or working for the American Red Cross, came into contact with interesting personalities; and she expresses her views and relates her experiences with so much good humour that you are glad enough to learn all about them. It is a little odd, by the way, to read in one of the earlier letters that the writer hopes she has persuaded Mr. John Lane to publish the collection, incomplete at the time, and in spite of the fact that Mr. Lane was, or said he was, ignorant of any previous work she had published.

MISS MARIE VAN VORST

The well-known American novelist, whose latest book, "War Letters from an American Woman" (Lane: 5s. net) is reviewed on this page

A Bygone Age

The first volume of Mr. W. M. S. Knight's *A History of Britain During the Great War* (Ridd Masson Co.: 7*s.* 6*d.* net) reads like some ancient document dug out from a mass of old records; yet it deals with this country in the earlier months of 1914. It is cleverly put together, but makes rather unpleasant reading, all the more so from the fact that Mr. Knight repeatedly shows so much bias. He reminds us of the bad old days when Marconis and Suffragettes were the rage, when there was going to be all that trouble in Ulster, and when Jim Larkin and the South African Deporteds and Kikuyu filled our newspapers. Indeed, so bad do things seem to Mr. Knight that he labels his volume "The Anarchy Before the Outbreak." Historically speaking, the book has a certain definite value, but it is a pity that the writer should have gone out of his way to be so amazingly personal, at a moment when everybody is trying, if sometimes not altogether successfully, to side with his neighbour. Moreover, even if there were Marconis and things, life went on in England just the same, smooth and serene, and, apart from the political arena, sound and clean. Not all the politics in the world will alter English home life.

R. S.

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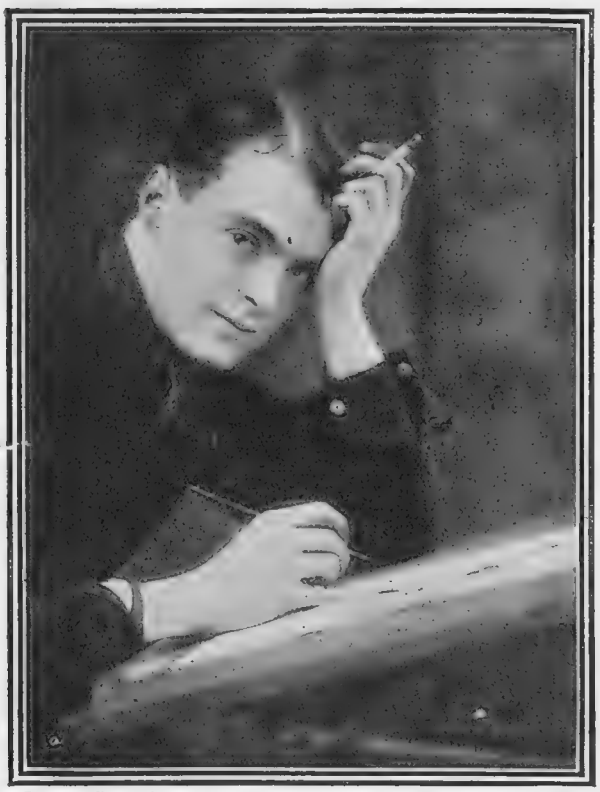
His lessons, *exclusive and confidential* to each student, are superbly illustrated. Exercises are sent by post to Mr. Dawson, whose letters of personal advice and constructive criticism are alone worth the moderate fee for the course.



Camera Portrait *Hoppé*

TRIBUTE from CAPT. BAIRNSFATHER

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DEAR MR. DAWSON,—I consider your Art Course excellent in every way. The mass of Technical Instruction it contains and its stimulating influence upon one's efforts make it indispensable. Even now I always have it by me for reference, and find it an immense aid.

Yours very sincerely,

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Letter from famous "Punch" Artist

(Contributor to "Graphic," "Illustrated London News," &c.)

DEAR MR. DAWSON,—I am glad to add my tribute to those which I am sure you must receive from every student of yours who knows a good thing when he sees it.

I am positive that anyone with average intelligence and a little natural ability, who intends taking up Art as a profession—no matter how ignorant he may be at the beginning—cannot fail to lay a sound foundation for future success by carefully following your clever, practical, and most interesting lessons. I only wish I had had the benefit of your training when I was young.

Any serious man or woman with common-sense who takes your Course, would, I am convinced, be astonished at his or her progress. If this letter leads anyone who doubts the value of postal instruction to take your Course, I shall feel that I have been the means of doing them a good turn.

You are at liberty to use my name as an endorsement of my entire faith in your amazingly efficient, original and inspiriting system.

Yours faithfully,

A. CHANTREY CORBOULD.

These letters are typical of many others from artists of all ages in all parts of the Empire, who have written the most sincere and authoritative endorsements ever bestowed upon a teacher or a system.

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Music and the War

A DEBTOR AND CREDITOR ACCOUNT

ONE is continually being asked by people interested in music who live in the country—and the great majority of people so interested are most emphatically to be found out of Town—how the war is affecting music in London. The question is not easy to answer shortly, and impossible to answer without reservations, but, on the whole, I would venture to say that the answer is favourable rather than the reverse. True Parliamentary caution, this, is it not?

❀ ❀

OF course, a great many musicians are terribly, tragically affected, and though it is sometimes said that only those who have no talent are unemployed this cheerful generality is not quite true: a great many incompetents are flourishing like the proverbial bay-tree and some competents are doing very badly. Again, it is an open secret that two or three of our leading musical organisations would have fared badly but for the generous and public-spirited support of a gentleman, whose anonymity is likely to be of little use as a cloak to his identity.

❀ ❀

BUT, really, that is about the sum total of the debit side; while to the credit side we may place the huge item of the first really successful and popular English opera season that has taken place in London since Mr. Harrison and Miss Pyne captivated Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort at the Lyceum many years ago. Nor is that all. We may look with moderate satisfaction on the majority, and with complete satisfaction on the minority, of our concert programmes. At their worst they have been conventionally respectable, at their best progressive and audacious. On the whole I doubt if of any other belligerent country as much could be said.

❀ ❀

AND, what many people may consider most important of all, chamber music has done very well since the war. The really excellent work of Mr. Frank Bridge in this most attractive field of music seems to have won permanent recognition at last, while it is especially satisfactory to note that English audiences have finally realised what a few specialists have told them for a long time—to wit, that the best English players of chamber-music are just as good as their talented (and much advertised) rivals from over the sea. The fact of the matter is that what has changed in London during the war has been the quantity rather than the quality of the music performed. Concerts, indeed, are few nowadays, but at least they are genuine. Nobody has time for poses or money to waste. People only patronise what they really and passionately like. So our music has become more natural, more spontaneous. The gain is great.

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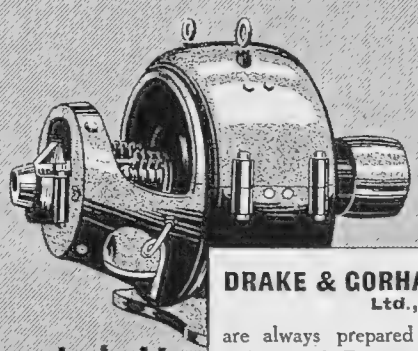

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Motoring Affairs

BY ALEX. J. M. GRAY

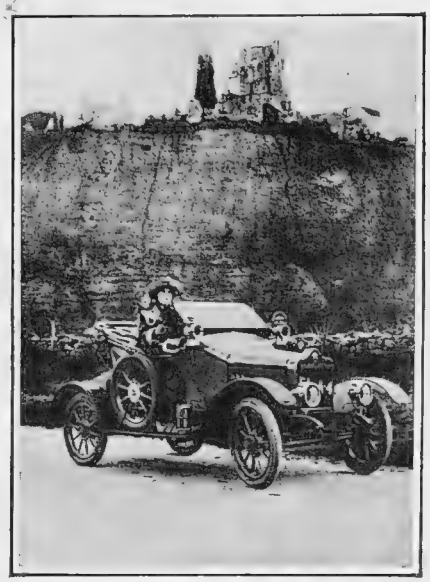
Figures—

THERE were 2,000 fewer motor-cabs licensed in January, 1916, than in July, 1914; horse-cabs had fallen by 700; motor-omnibuses had diminished by 1,000, and tramcars by 100. These figures are for London alone. Present totals: Taxi-cabs, 5,813; horsed cabs, 946; motor-'buses, 2,707; tramcars, 2,733. This vehicular diminution represents a total difference of 6,544 in drivers and conductors. I daresay at least a similar number of washers, repairers, general maintenance men, clerks, and others directly concerned, have been put out of their jobs as a consequence; while another large body of labour, which would have been engaged upon the manufacture of the vehicles, their tyres and equipment, has also been displaced.

***

—As Indicating Importance

ALTOGETHER this difference between the last month of peace and the first month of the present year of war must, in round figures, be somewhere in the neighbourhood of 20,000 men at least. Work it out for the whole country in approximate proportion to London, and you begin to appreciate the contribution which the public service department of road transport alone has made to the fighting or the munitioneering forces. Also, you will be able to form some estimate of the importance of the motor industry as a factor in the solution of the labour (unemployed) problem in times of peace. And yet, after making the deductions referred to, there are still 29,550 men engaged as drivers and conductors on these public service vehicles in London. From which Shallow will immediately infer that there remains a considerable reserve to draw upon—at any rate, he is likely so to infer until he discovers that he must, in the language of the commonalty, pad the hoof between his home and his job for lack of the means of conveyance.



THE STANDARD

—By name and of value. A 9'5 h.p. Standard All-British light car photographed in the vicinity of Corfe Castle, which is seen in the background

***

Undue Drainage

THE idea that we can draw, and keep on drawing, upon our civil reserves is as dangerous in its own way as the idea that we should not disturb industry because we happen to have a war on. There is no sense in draining our supply of civil mechanics if presently we have to bring them back to civil life to do urgently necessary work That has happened. Considered solely from the point of view of military efficiency it is necessary that there should be several (diluted or undiluted) civil efficients for every one military efficient. To keep these civilians efficient, means that a large number of others must be occupied in providing food, shelter, clothing, and means of conveyance. Drain dry your means of conveyance and efficiency is impaired. What applies to the mechanic applies also to his

(*Continued on page x*)

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Do your duty to your skin and get Antexema to-day. Supplied by all chemists and stores everywhere. Also of Boots' Cash Chemists, Army & Navy, Civil Service Stores, Harrod's, Selfridges', Whiteley's, Parke's, Taylor's Drug Co., Timothy White's and Lewis & Burrows' at 1/3 and 3/- per bottle, or direct, post free, in plain wrapper, 1/6 and 3/- from Antexema, Castle Laboratory, London, N.W. Also throughout India, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, and Europe.

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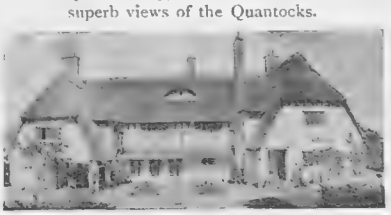

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21 ACRES OF PARK-LAND.

FOR SALE AT ABOUT HALF COST.

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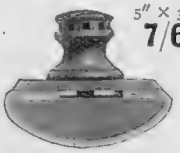

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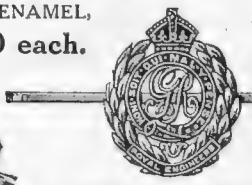

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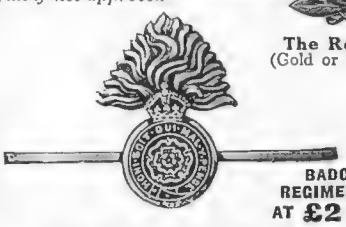

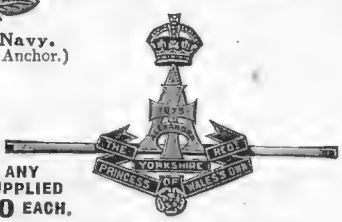

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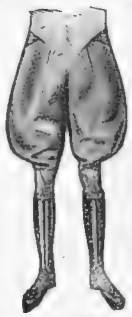

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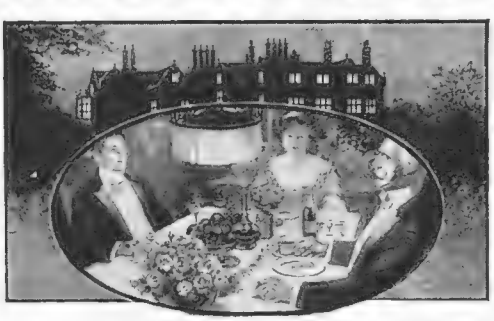

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If you send an original sketch, or a copy of this one, I will give you a helpful opinion, quite free, as well as the Prospectuses. Write to me personally to-day. Percy V. Bradshaw, Principal.

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(Dept. B3),
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Collect your Loose Fittings and put them in a Cross Suit Case

If you desire to obtain fittings we have a range of new patterns. Here is described a complete set at a moderate price.
A set of ivory grained xylonite fittings for these suit cases, consisting of hair and cloth brush, mirror, comb, bottles for soap, tooth powder, face powder, toilet water, perfume and tooth brushes, nail file and button hook, is supplied at **40/-**

Here is a wise and advisable means of practising economy and retaining good style for your personal belongings. Everyone has loose toilet fittings possessing peculiar personal associations. If you collect all these loose fittings and place them in a Cross Case you will possess an attractively fitted Dressing Case.

A very desirable feature of this Suit Case is that the fittings, being in the lid do not interfere with the packing of garments in the body of the case. The case contains drawn pockets of adjustable size to contain toilet fittings of any size.

Case made of smooth tan or black grained hide, lined watered moirette. No. 3045.

18½ x 12 x 4¾ in.	Without fittings	...	...	Price	61/6
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Write for Gift List No. 2.

Therein are fully described a wide range of new and useful goods, also special goods for Soldiers on Active Service.

MARK CROSS Ltd
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was the cry of the villain in "Aladdin and the Lamp." New tyres for old is the cry of the

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Repair Department. If your old grooved cover has been properly treated and the casing is sound, it can be economically repaired and retreaded at

Priory Works, Belsize Road, Kilburn, London, N.W.: Aston Cross, Birmingham; 60, North Wallace St., Glasgow; Oriel House, Westland Row, Dublin.

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The Ideal Service Kit includes

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The majority of officers in the British Army know by experience the advantages of wearing "Viyella." It reduces the risk of chill to a minimum, is soft, warm, light, and non-irritant, and it will not shrink, whilst its exceeding durability will stand the hard wear which the campaign demands better than anything else—eighteen months of war have proved the absolute superiority of "Viyella" in every respect. "Viyella" Shirts are obtainable ready-to-wear or made-to-measure in regulation khakis and greys, and in "weights" adapted to the various seasons and climes ("tropical," light, medium, and heavy weights).

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"SATURDAY WESTMINSTER"

The Penny Weekly Magazine-Review for the Thinking Man and Woman.

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HEAD OFFICES: LIVERPOOL & LONDON.

MOTORING AFFAIRS (concluded from page 500)

superintendents and their cars. And to the car-owners who contribute, directly or indirectly, to necessary civilian usefulness.

***

Gang Warily

THEREFORE to proceed as if nothing mattered except fighting units, which could not live a day (as the £6,000 Secretary for War pointed out in his great Economy speech recently) without the civilian backing, is, as the immortal Euclid would say, absurd. The Guards want powder, but they want it made; which means civilians, and, incidentally, motor-cabs, 'buses, cars, and commercial vehicles. Cut these out, or any one of them, and unless the cutting is most warily done, you have dammed the flow of powder to the Guards Allow fuel companies to push up prices, or reduce the supply of fuel necessary to run these necessary motor vehicles, and the result is the same. Which in its turn means that the price of fuel should be regulated by authority in order to ensure adequate supplies. We are to understand that Authority now has this matter in hand. And none too soon.

***

A "Motor Bath"

A NOTE from Mech. Staff-Sergeant Bertram Boultwood, who, before the war, was a well-known personality in motoring. Let me quote concerning a certain "motor bath" designed by Mr. J. Strachan: "It's an ordinary sized lorry box-body with hot water geysers that produce the water at 140 degrees in five minutes. The collapsible baths come open out of the lorry, the men jump in, have a good scrub, with dry and fumigated clothes to put on when they have finished. Every week 3,000 men in the trenches can make themselves sweet and clean. Many thousands of decently brought up men would regard the gift of such a vehicle as this motor bath equipment of Mr. Strachan's design, as a veritable God-send." Now, who donates?

***

The Car of History

TALBOTS, immersed in war-work, have still in their entrance hall at Barlby Road, North Kensington, a substantial souvenir of happier days. There stands in its polished steel streamline body of a mere 19 inches beam, the very 25 h.p. Talbot which, during Olympia week of 1912, smashed records to smithereens by doing a half-mile at 113 m.p.h., and, later on, was still further to knock the *cognoscenti* agog by covering 103 miles in the hour. If you would care to see it, the car's there for the purpose; and if, at the same time, you elect to put your name on the waiting list for one of the earliest Talbots to be had after the war, you will not have to reproach yourself for an ill-deed. Rather you may fairly take occasion to congratulate yourself upon a precautionary act of excellent discrimination.

***

Of Things That Matter Somewhat

A JOINT Studebaker and Dunlop achievement. Freemantle to Sydney, 3,000 miles of the roughest, sandiest, and driftiest on a six-cylinder 40 h.p. Studebaker with a 2½-ton load. Time, against all anticipation, under nine days. Petrol consumption worked out at 15 m.p.g., which is remarkably good in such circumstances. A special word of praise is accorded the Dunlop tyres for the way in which they stood up under the gruelling.—On exhibition at Alexandra House, Kingsway, the first of the twelve-cylinder Packards to get to these isles. A splendid job from a firm world-famous for cars embodying all the high excellencies. Just to see the sort of engineering turned out of the best American factories, call at Gaston Williams and Wigmore at the address above. And if you would appreciate the difference between a twelve-cylinder car and cars of common usage, take a trial run and coast Elysium.

C.A.V. ELECTRIC STARTERS.—Effective—Powerful—a simple pressure of the pedal and the engine starts under its own power. Catalogue and full particulars post free.—C. A. VANDERVELL & Co., Ltd., Electrical Engineers, Acton, London, W.

THE 1916 8-CYLINDER CADILLAC IS THE SWEETEST RUNNING CAR IN THE WORLD.—For trial and further particulars write F. S. BENNETT, Ltd., 24-27, Orchard Street, Oxford Street, London, W. Telephone: Mayfair 2836.

CLAUDEL HOBSON Carburetters in the war area are giving consistently good service. In any area and under all circumstances they will give you service just as dependable.—H. M. HOBSON, Ltd., 29, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.

A Question of Colour.

Do you know that most manufacturers are unable to guarantee the fastness of colours in their fabrics now? The various dye-substitutes now in use are liable to fade in a very short time; but we still have a quantity of dyes *bought in at the beginning of the War* with which we *can dye absolutely fast colours.*

Costumes, Frocks etc., dyed by us are now far more reliable than new, because they are dyed with the *original fast dyes.* Our charges are moderate and Illustrated List will be sent free on request.

Achille Serre Ltd.

Head Office:
Hackney Wick, London

Branches & Agencies Everywhere

D30

THE DRYAD CANE WORKS during the past year have been making Shell Baskets and other War Materials, and thus were unable to deliver chairs with their usual promptness. They can now supply as usual, and are also making INVALID FURNITURE, such as Carrying Chairs, Self-propelling Chairs, Bed Rests, Bed Tables, etc., catalogue of which will be sent, post free on application, from Y department, Dryad Cane Works, 42 St. Nicholas Street, Leicester.

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A hot bath in which Droitwich Brine Crystals are dissolved is the surest and pleasantest way of relieving Rheumatism and similar complaints. The natural action of these "Crystals," which are prepared for home use from the *original* Brine Springs, quickly effects a *complete* cure by removing the Uric Acid.

Droitwich Brine Crystals are prescribed by doctors all over the Kingdom.

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Delivered free to any Railway Station in Great Britain.

WESTON & WESTALL, Ltd.
(Dept. 20), 16, EASTCHEAP, E.C.

The perfect face powder in the *practical* box

POUDRE NILDÉ is made of special ingredients which have a beneficent action on the skin, protecting it against its natural enemies — *wind, dust, rain, cold.* It prevents the skin becoming coarse and rough and enables you to have a complexion that is always smooth and velvety in texture.

Poudre Nildé

In the *Sifter* box

The patent box in which Poudre Nildé is supplied contains an ingenious sifter that enables one to secure *just enough* powder on the puff *and no more*, thus ensuring that evenness of complexion so much desired by every lady of refinement. It also compels economy by preventing waste—and is more cleanly in use, because it prevents the powder spilling on to one's dress.

Poudre Nildé is not lumpy like compact powder. You get double the quantity, better quality—and nothing to break. Consequently it is more economical—better in every way.

Supplied in 4 tints.

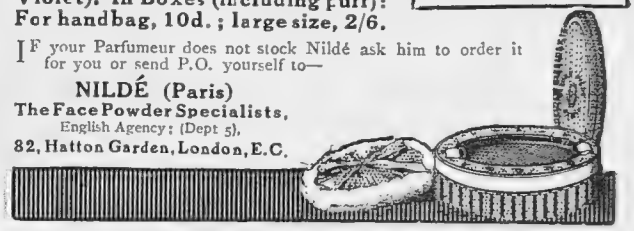
Perfumes (Bouquet Nildé, Rose or Violet). In Boxes (including puff): For handbag, 10d.; large size, 2/6.

ROUGE.
***Invisible* NILDÉ**

is Rouge in powder form—for the discreet woman. It is indetectable and ensures that *natural* bloom so characteristic of the freshness of youth. Sold in the patent Nildé box. In 2 shades, Blonde and Brune. In Boxes, **1/-**; in Leather Cases, **3/-**

IF your Parfumeur does not stock Nildé ask him to order it for you or send P.O. yourself to—

NILDÉ (Paris)
The Face Powder Specialists,
English Agency: (Dept 5),
82, Hatton Garden, London, E.C.



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1915-1916

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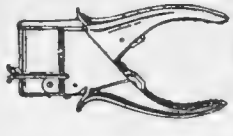

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Fastens papers without pins or metal clips.

This little instrument should be used by every man who wants to keep his correspondence in order. It saves pins and wire clips.

Fastens several sheets at a time. Bought by many officers, doctors, public bodies and business houses during the last few weeks.

Can be used for letters and replies, invoices, memoranda, etc. Pays for itself in a short time. It is handsomely plated, costs only **17/6**, and will be sent on approval to any reader of "The Bystander." Write for a week's free trial.

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Benger's Food nourishes in conditions when other foods cannot be absorbed.

Think what this means in the crisis of illness, when not only the kind of food given, but the amount of it, must be medically judged with the greatest care.

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assists nature.— Infants thrive on it, Delicate & Aged persons enjoy it.

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After washing the hands care should be taken to dry them **thoroughly**, as neglect of this simple precaution is the most common cause of "Chapping." A little

BEETHAM'S

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gently massaged into the Hands and Arms will keep the Skin Soft and White and free from all Roughness and Redness. Cultivate the La-Rola habit and you'll never need to worry over the appearance of your Hands.

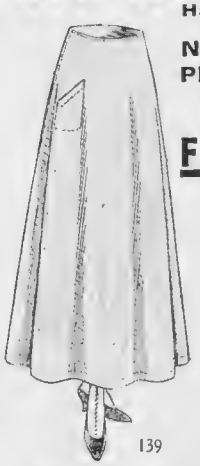
In bottles, 1/1½, from all Chemists and Stores.

M. BEETHAM and SON, CHELTENHAM, ENGLAND

H. A. BEAL

Has secured a large consignment of NEW TWEEDS at PRE-WAR PRICES

THE NEW FULL SKIRT



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In NEW TWEEDS and RAINPROOFED TWILLS

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In Ready-to-Wear Sizes.
Waist: 23 24 25 26 27
Length: 34 36 38 40 42

Or Made to Own Measures. Corselet if desired 1/6 extra.
Patch Pocket, 6d.
The Skirts are only sent on receipt of P.O.

Patterns by return.

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THE IDEAL BEEF BEVERAGE

OLD YORK PAVING,
Also Purbeck and Portland paving

Square or broken for crazy work paths, also a quanity of secondhand Granite Kerb and Granite Setts, can be loaded on to any rail in London or delivered by van.

For price and particulars apply to—

GEO. E. CLOKE, Contractor,
Railway Wharf, Blackburn Rd., West Hampstead London, N.W.

Exterminated by "LIVERPOOL" VIRUS

RATS

No Danger to Animals. NO SMELL.
In Tins baited for Rats 2/6 & 6/-; for Mice 1/6.
Of all chemists, write particulars: Dept. G.

EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB Ltd.
56, Hanover Street, LIVERPOOL.

The Safe and Sure Treatment

for tired, lined eyes, imperfect contours, unhealthy complexions, double chins, &c., is the **GANESH**. The wonderful Ganesh Treatments and Preparations are genuine aids to Natural Beauty. Red Broken Veins, Marks on the Face, absolutely removed in a few seconds without pain and leaving no mark.

Mrs E. ADAIR'S ANNUAL SALE is now on, and will continue until AUG. 12. All PREPARATIONS and TREATMENTS are REDUCED 10 per cent until that date.

GANESH EASTERN OIL will of itself remove lines, fill out hollows, and is nearer to the natural oil of the skin than any other preparation ever invented. From **5/6.** ADVICE FREE.

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THE IDEAL RECREATION FOR THE WOUNDED AND YOURSELF

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JUST PUBLISHED—New Revised Catalogue.
Write at once for a copy.
See our offer of a FREE GIFT to the wounded and hospitals.
THE "GRAPHIC" GALLERY, 190, Strand, London, W.C.

Fashions Fancies

BY MRS. JACK MAY

It is impossible to become case-hardened where clothes are concerned. I, who write, have had some large and testing experiences, and still feel the same enthusiasm that amounts to artistic appreciation of some supremely fine and fresh efforts.

Good, Yet Inexpensive, Millinery

Very fortuitously, as is now proved, there commenced just previous to the war a career of inexpensive millinery. And perceiving the possibilities existing in such a departure, Messrs. D. H. Evans took the subject up, with a result that only a personal visit to Oxford Street can enable one adequately to realise. The firm claim, and few will be disposed to contradict them, that for taste, advanced style, and value, they maintain a selection of hats at 12*s.* 9*d.* that come second to none. These just now include a number of the favourite little oblong pork-pie toques, carried out in silk. One in navy has the full brim gauged on cordings, and decked at intervals with a little dull red flower, pressed flat against the silk; while another *chic* black silk creation boasts a huge fantail bow, standing erect on the crown. There are likewise any number of larger straight-brim models, many of silk and beautifully light—the which is a test of adroit millinery work.

THE VOGUE OF THE SEMI-TRIMMED STRAW

Two models selected from a wide range of this favourite type of hat at Messrs. D. H. Evans', 290, Oxford Street, W. Both are described in the adjacent left-hand column

SKETCHED BY DOROTHY MILLAR

Another wonderful range is that of the simple semi-trimmed hats in fine quality straws, such as the well-dressed woman just now is selecting and wearing in preference to all others. Suitable to all sorts of occasions and gowns is the picturesque shady shape illustrated, of pedal straw of that superfine quality that permits of its being crushed up in the hand with impunity. This shape in elephant-grey, with a *lame* of cyclamen pink tagal, to which a *picot*-edged ribbon for the crown is matched, a small floral *piquet* finishing the scheme, is as charming a *chapeau* as has appeared this season. And the price is so moderate, only 18*s.* 11*d.*

The other cosily fitting little fancy is built of the new chrysanthemum straw, the brim lined tagal in a self shade. This, also, is an extraordinarily flexible piece of headgear, and likely to prove a formidable rival to the popular *moufflon*; it is being offered by D. H. Evans at 15*s.* 11*d.* *Tulle* is conspicuously in evidence as a decorative detail on more dressy models, together with hand-made silk flowers, and huge coxcombs of *faille* ribbon. In fact, the whole millinery section here is exceptional in every way, and carries conviction wherever the eye is turned.

Artistic Furnishing Schemes

The name of Williamson and Cole, Clapham High Street, is synonymous with all that pertains to the Home Beautiful; and, in due accordance with a well-established custom, the firm is opening the spring season with a fresh array—if possible, more enchanting than ever—of cretonnes and furnishing fabrics. It is easy to see that an artist's mind is at the back of the whole concern, the same supreme good taste being evidenced with cretonnes at 6¾*d.* the yard, as with the exquisite range rising to 8*s.* 11*d.* So vast and catholic is the choice that the only difficulty to be combated is bewilderment, for as each charming design is passed for inspection inclination inevitably wavers.

As for the prices asked, these are simply amazing, personal investigation alone being able to gauge the wonderful value supplied throughout. There is, for example, the "Beryl Rose" cretonne, only 7½*d.* the yard, comprising a very handsome rose device on a bold black and white striped ground. The latter is quite a feature of the season's novelties, and is delightfully expressed in the "Crested Pheasant" design at 11½*d.* the yard, the pattern here consisting of red and pink roses and pheasants. Then at the latter moderate price the "Chequer Rose" claims immediate attention, the ground here being in most effective black and white chess-board squares. There are old chintz patterns, ideal for bedrooms, at 9½*d.* the yard, and tapestry designs from 6¾*d.* for smoking-rooms and dining-rooms, while drawing-rooms and boudoirs are ably supplied with a host of lovely cretonnes, including every possible range of colours and design.

A special feature is made here of curtains, the prices again leaving nothing to be desired. Starting with Bolton sheeting, one side and foot bordered with "Chrysanthemum and Cherry" cretonne, 18*s.* 11*d.* is the extraordinarily moderate sum Messrs. Williamson and Cole are asking per pair, the "Mulgrave," in Sun Dorien Rep, with *appliqué* cretonne border, rising to 39*s.* 11*d.* the pair, while an extremely handsome curtain in cream *Rep de Luxe* is applied with a beautiful

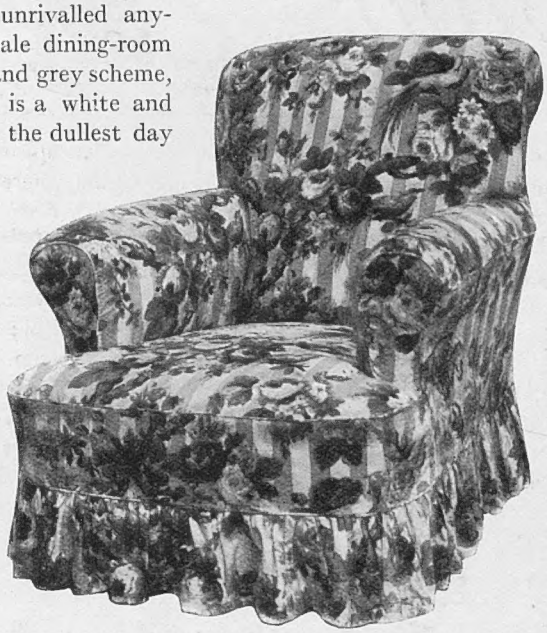
(*Continued on page* xiv)

FASHION'S FANCIES (*concluded from page* xiii)

" Standard Rose " design, and comes out at £3 17*s.* 6*d.* the pair, and so on *ad infinitum*.

Within fairly recent days Williamson and Cole have arranged a series of furnished rooms, that for artistic beauty and conception are unrivalled anywhere. A Chinese Chippendale dining-room is delightful, as is also a wine and grey scheme, while of irresistible charm is a white and old rose bedroom. Even on the dullest day a lovely roseate glow filters through the white curtains by reason of their rose-coloured lining. The effect of the latter is indescribably good and original.

Nor must the fact be overlooked that in spite of the increasing difficulty in obtaining fast dyes, Williamson and Cole are able to offer a big range of guaranteed unfadable colours in their world-renowned Sun-Proof Casement cloth. They have likewise an exhaustive supply of Cingalee cloth and Bolton sheeting, the latter including such popular colours as green, pink, blue, and reseda.



THE "ALBANY" CHAIR

One of Messrs. Williamson and Cole's famous easy chairs, which, complete with loose cretonne cover and beautifully sprung, costs only £5 19s. 6d.

A "Sanitas" Safeguard

Among the many hardships and inconveniences which our fighting forces have to endure not the least is the live pest which is one of the most distressing ills that the flesh is heir to. Many treatments have been tried, but as a means both of preventing and destroying the pest the special paste manufactured by the Sanitas Company, of Locksley Street, E., is as efficacious as any. Its application is quite simple; no harm can be done to the person or the clothing (beyond a slight greasiness); and the treatment, besides presenting no unpleasant features or practical difficulties, has the great advantage that it can be carried out by each man for himself.

Heroes of Loos

We have received a copy of the Souvenir Book of the 6th Cameron Highlanders, published last month by Spottiswoode and Co., and compiled and written entirely by members of the battalion in France. The 6th Camerons formed part of the 15th (Scottish) Division which so distinguished itself in the fighting round Loos on September 25 and 26, 1915, and the book contains (*inter alia*) a record of the doings of the battalion in these operations, and its history during its period of training. Some articles in lighter vein written at various times in the trenches are added, and at the end comes a list of battalion honours and a " Roll of Honour " of those killed and wounded. This most interesting publication is obtainable from the publishers at 75, Shoe Lane, E.C., or in Scotland from any of the offices of the *Glasgow Herald* for 1*s.*, or, by post, for 1*s.* 3*d.*

ROWE

Juvenile Tailors to H.M. The Queen.

A " Rowe " dressed boy or girl is a well-dressed boy or girl, using that description in its best sense, for the excellence of Rowe garments has made them recognised as the right garments wherever correct taste prevails.

During March only

This fine quality Navy Botany Serge Coat and Skirt, made to order in Rowe workrooms, will be obtainable for **84/-**

Or for **90/-** in excellent Cream Serge.

Write for Patterns and Styles, or we will copy your own style without extra charge.

106, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, W.

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IDEAL MILK

Fresh milk concentrated to the consistency of cream.

NO SUGAR USED AT ALL

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ANGLO-SWISS CONDENSED MILK CO., 6-8 EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.

By Appointment *to H.M. The King.*

War-time Economy and Beauty

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Palm and Olive Oils were used thousands of years ago by the lovely women of Greece and Rome to keep their Skins soft and pliable, as a preventive of wrinkles, and to ensure that peach-like complexion which they so highly prized. To-day, as then, these Oils are unexcelled for Beauty culture.

PALMOLIVE

is the LAST WORD in Soaps, and it is made from Palm and Olive Oils. PALMOLIVE is triple milled, which ensures its perfect purity and also its economic value. One Tablet of PALMOLIVE outlasts two tablets of ordinary soap, and it is good to the very last wafer. There is a whole Beauty Outfit in a Tablet of PALMOLIVE. PALMOLIVE contains no free alkali and is not artificially coloured. It also counteracts the ill-effects of hard water.

A liberal sample can be had free, or a large cake of PALMOLIVE can be purchased at the chemists for 6d, or will be sent post free on receipt of six penny stamps, with name and address.

IT IS ALL SUFFICIENT FOR THE TOILET.

The B. J. JOHNSON SOAP CO., 124, Holborn, LONDON, E.C.

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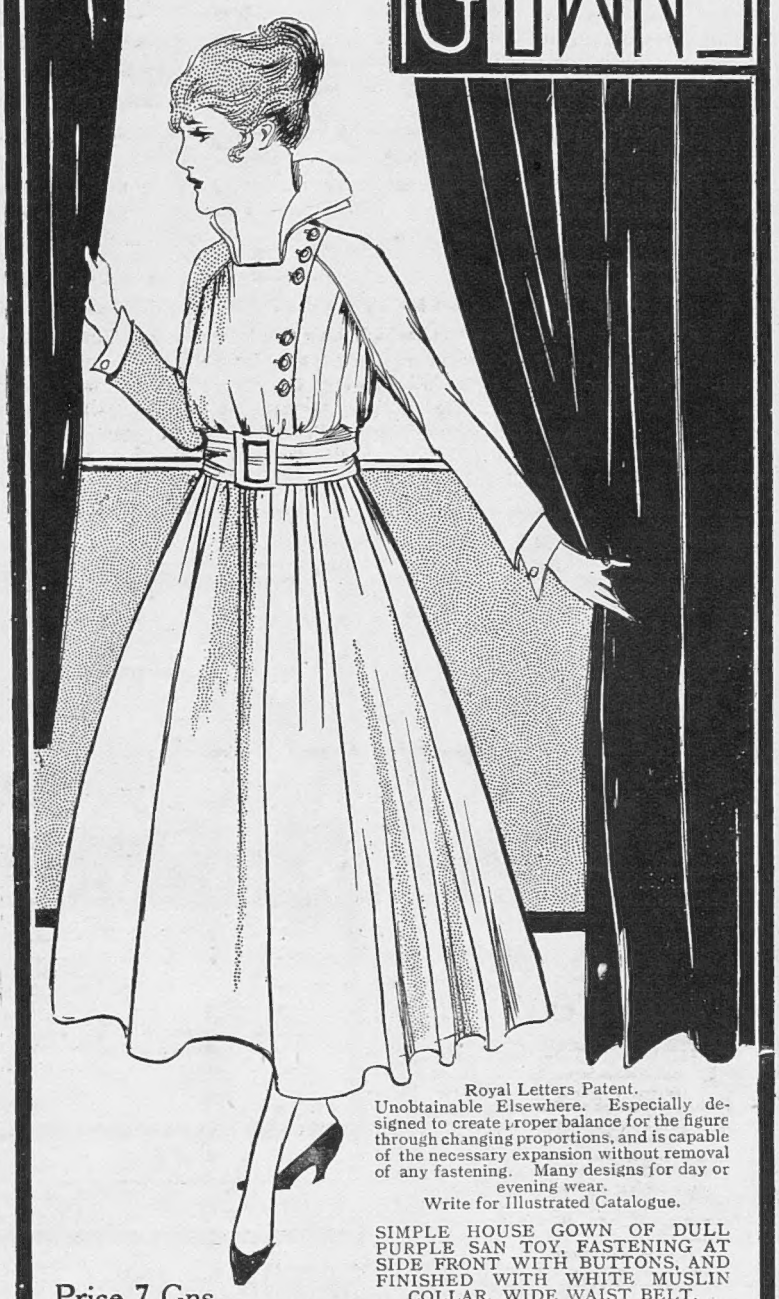

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Write for Illustrated Catalogue.

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THE MENU

A CHOICE DINNER FOR FOUR

Chestnut Soup

This can be made with "chestnut flour," obtainable at most grocers, and sold in a packet. Three ounces will be required for the soup, one large onion, two sticks of celery (or one dessertspoonful of celery seed), 3 oz. of butter, one pint of milk, one pint of water, and one gill of cream. Melt the butter, and fry the onion and celery (cut up) until nicely cooked. Add the water, a little mace and seasoning, and cook gently for half an hour. Mix the chestnut flour to a smooth paste with the milk, stir into the soup, and leave the whole to cook gently for another half an hour. Strain to remove the pieces of onion and celery, add the cream, and reheat before serving. Fried dice of bread to be served with the soup.

For the fish course, salmon being fairly reasonable in price just now, grilled salmon steak (1 lb. of the middle cut will make two good-sized cutlets) done in the ordinary way is suggested.

Guinea Fowl

Have a nice larded guinea-fowl, which any poulterer will supply, as they are in season at the present time; roast it carefully and baste plentifully, as it is by nature a very dry bird; dish up garnished with watercress, and serve with espagnole sauce, made as follows: Fry together 1½ oz. of butter and the same of flour, a sliced onion, a sliced tomato, and a small slice of lean ham, then add gradually half a pint of brown stock, boil all together for fifteen minutes, strain it, add a wineglassful of sherry, boil it up, and serve in a sauce-boat.

American Salad

Cut a fresh cabbage into the thinnest shreds possible, season it well with salt, black pepper, tarragon vinegar, a small onion finely chopped, salad oil, and a very little cream. Mix all well together in a bowl, and garnish with slices of hard-boiled egg and a few capers, and sprinkle over a little chopped chervil.

Gâteau with Fruit

Cut off the top of a Madeira cake, and from the centre cut a large piece, leaving a wall of cake round about 2in. thick. Have a bottle of either preserved apricots or plums, and stew them in syrup a little while. Fill up the centre of the cake with the fruit, put on the top, and use the syrup to pour over the cake to soak it. When cold cover with a thick custard or whipped cream.

Corn au Gratin

Turn out a tin of corn into a stewpan, and simmer it for ten minutes, adding ½ oz. of butter, white pepper, and salt. Have ready about a cupful of thick white sauce, stir this into the cooked corn, and pour it all into a fire-proof dish, which has been buttered and sprinkled with breadcrumbs. Cover the corn thickly with grated cheese and bake for twenty minutes in a hot oven. EMILIA

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